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Guardian

Monday January 29 1996

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# The Guardian

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## Blair plan for school fast track

Reforms would let bright children forge ahead

**Patrick Wintour and John Carvel**

**T**ONY BLAIR, the Labour leader, seeks today to regain control of the debate on education by promising reforms designed to ensure bright students can forge ahead within a comprehensive system.

Writing in the Guardian in the wake of Labour's controversy over selective grammar schools, Mr Blair argues: "We should refuse to go back to selection, but refuse too to make do with uniformity."

Instead, he argues that bright children should, within comprehensives, be allowed to be taught in classrooms with older children. "Today we need a system where students forge ahead in areas of strength, breaking down the traditional equation of ages and stages."

Mr Blair's remarks are his first on education since Labour was hit by the controversial decision of Harriet Harman, the shadow health secretary, to send her son to a selective grammar school.

Although Mr Blair's refined policy may give children within the comprehensive system more of the advantages previously only found in selective schools, his aides insist they were developed well before the Harman controversy.

The proposals are a rejection of what he describes as "the traditional factory model of education" in which all children "are assumed to proceed at broadly similar speed in every subject".

In a keynote speech at Southwark Cathedral in south London today to mark the 10th anniversary of the



churches's Faith in The City report, he will also propose extra help for failing inner city schools by twinning them with more successful schools, and by making experience in sink schools a condition of swift promotion for teachers.

In remarks designed to assuage the so-called aspirational classes, he also calls for year-on-year pressure for school improvement, and to encourage every school to develop a distinctive ethos and specialism.

At the same time, Mr Blair seeks to reassure advocates of comprehensive education by insisting in his Guardian article that there will be no return to the 11 plus.

Mr Blair's strategy is designed to meet head-on the increasingly-confident challenge being mounted by the Prime Minister. Bolstered by his performance in the Commons last week, John Major said yesterday that it had been "had been the week in which Labour realised they would lose the general election, when the facade began to crack."

Reflecting the end of Tory

defeatism over the next election, Mr Major told the Sunday Telegraph that "anyone who had been in the Commons over the past week will have seen a revolution in atmosphere and in the confidence of Tory MPs".

Predicting a rise in living standards well in excess of £450 for the average family this year, he said: "I think the feel good factor, the confidence and growth in the British economy is coming back."

The economy and education have emerged as key battlegrounds in the phone-election campaign being fought by the major parties.

David Blunkett, the shadow education secretary, denied reports yesterday that Labour would backtrack on its plans to allow parents the chance to vote the country's 160 remaining grammar schools into the comprehensive system.

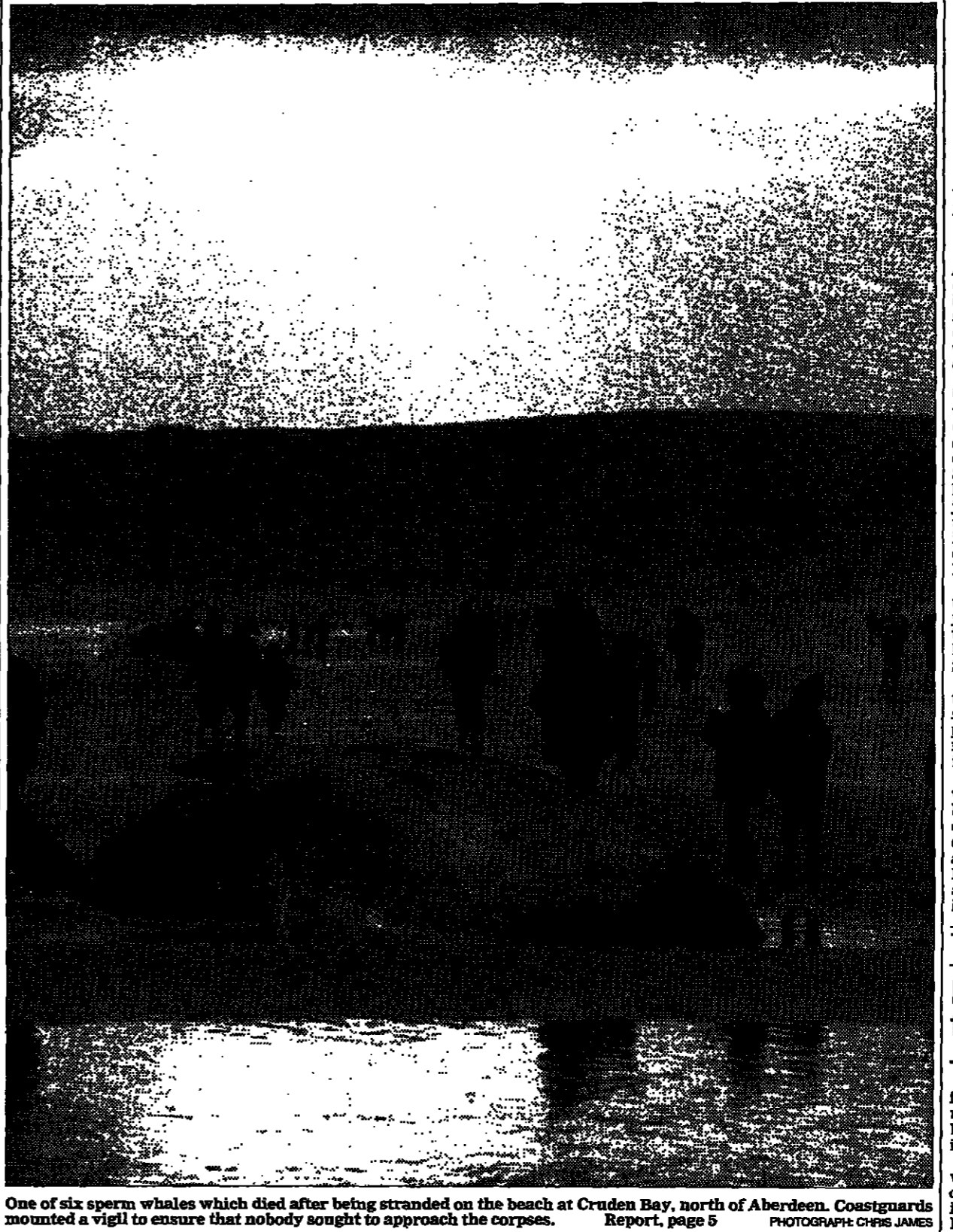
"Moves to open admission rather than selection must come from the local level," he said. "There will be no central edict, but if there is a desire at local level, there will be a ballot of the parents affected by the future admissions policy."

Last week's internal controversy over Ms Harman has also served to put extra pressure on shadow Treasury ministers to make spending on schools and universities an exception to the general rule that Labour will not give specific commitments of higher spending.

But in his Guardian article Mr Blair insists that he will keep education policy at the top of his agenda.

Turn to page 2, column 7

**Scottish beach a graveyard for whales that came too close**



One of six sperm whales which died after being stranded on the beach at Cruden Bay, north of Aberdeen. Coastguards mounted a vigil to ensure that nobody sought to approach the corpses. Report, page 5

## CIA bugged UN in Bosnia

**Ed Vulliamy**

**A**MERICAN secret services, which this week begin their first open operations in Bosnia, have been immersed in the war since its inception — so deeply that at one point they were bugging SAS commandos in the republic.

Sources from within the United States intelligence network have disclosed to the Guardian that US espionage eavesdropped on "secret" communications between SAS scouts operating in Serb-held territory, and the Sarajevo command of Unprofur, the United Nations military in Bosnia, then under the command of General Sir Michael Rose.

The SAS Forward Air Controllers were in charge of pinpointing Serbian artillery and tank positions as targets for Nato air strikes against the Serbs near Bihac in late 1994.

But the US sources reveal that Unprofur in Sarajevo instructed the SAS to withhold position co-ordinates, thereby neutralising the air strikes, in defiance of Nato.

Uncovering such details was part of the involvement by the US intelligence agencies, as the Americans became increasingly exasperated with the reluctance of Britain, the European Union and the UN to take a tough line with the Serbs.

The secret war, page 7

## Du Pont heir gives up after police siege of mansion

**Jonathan Freedland in Washington**

**E**CENTRIC millionaire John Eleuthère du Pont, suspected of murdering an Olympic champion wrestler, gave himself up last night after a siege at his mansion in Pennsylvania.

Mr du Pont was taken to a local police station by a heavily-armed rapid response team.

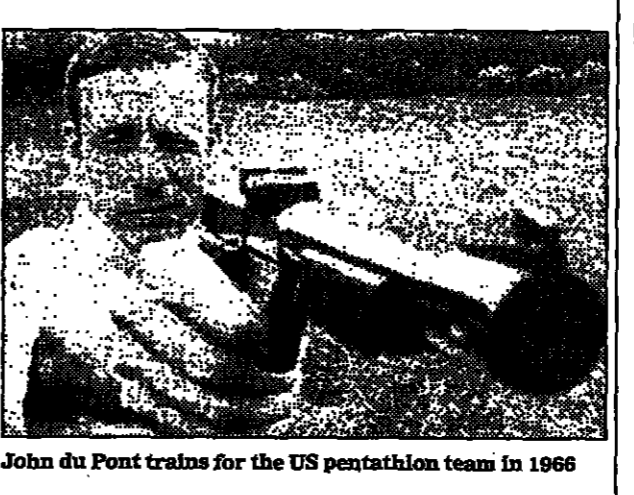
Mr du Pont, one of many heirs to the fortune of the US chemical company that bears his name, is the chief suspect for the murder of a gold medalist wrestler shot on Mr du Pont's estate on Friday.

Police believe a paranoid and delusional Mr du Pont shot Dave Schultz — a champion in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics — on his driveway in the latest act of a consistently strange life.

Police talked to the heavily-armed millionaire by telephone yesterday, as reinforcements and officers from an elite team of commandos surrounded the house, ready for a long siege.

They maintained particularly tight security around tunnels into the house, fearing an escape attempt.

Mr du Pont, aged 57, is a skilled marksman and wrestling enthusiast who converted his 800-acre estate outside Philadelphia into a model training base with a 14,000 square foot arena, four



John du Pont trains for the US pentathlon team in 1966

wrestling mats, an Olympic-sized swimming pool, weight rooms and houses for 60 athletes.

He was the manager of the US pentathlon team for the 1976 games in Montreal.

His ambition was to pack the 1996 squad with wrestlers from his Foxcatcher team, with Schultz, who was aged 36, making a comeback.

But friends and neighbours, who described him as a Howard Hughes-like figure, said his mental state had rapidly deteriorated recently.

On Christmas Eve he stunned neighbours when he drove a tank down his driveway. He emerged, his face bloody, and asked one woman if her husband could "come out to play".

Last year he drove his car into a pond, swam to shore, and left his passenger close to drowning.

He told friends he was taking cocaine and pills, and once accused Schultz of crawling through the walls of his mansion to spy on him.

"The guy was a lunatic, and everyone knew it and did nothing about it because of his generosity," said Nick Gallo, a close friend of Schultz.

Mr du Pont pays wrestlers on his estate a lavish stipend. Speculation rose yesterday that there might have been a sexual motive to the crime. In 1988 a wrestling coach claimed he had been fired because he had rejected sexual advances from Mr du Pont.

## Privatised railways plan to cut 4,000 jobs

**Keith Harper Transport Editor**

**U**P TO 4,000 jobs are to be axed by the newly privatised rail companies in an attempt to increase profits, it emerged last night.

A 20 per cent cut in jobs is being planned by the industry, which is in the process of being sold off piecemeal. Confidential British Rail figures suggest that its labour force will have fallen from 125,000 in 1994 to 25,000 by the end of the year, though many of its staff have transferred to the business units being sold off.

The pattern of job losses is being established by the Wisconsin Transportation Company, which runs the Royal Mail and the royal train, and has just bought BR's three freight companies. It has told the unions it wants to cut jobs from 8,000 to 5,000.

Up to 1,000 jobs are also in jeopardy on South West Trains, a BR subsidiary sold to Stagecoach.

Although Stagecoach will not take over running passenger services from Waterloo to the West Country until next month, there have been management hints that staff savings will have to be made.

A reduction of almost 1,000 jobs amounts to virtually a quarter of the work force of 4,000 on this railway section. It is an important and largely profitable part of BR's old system, carrying thousands of commuters to destinations such as Salisbury, Southampton, and Exeter.

An announcement is expected from Stagecoach in the next few weeks, and the unions are in crucial negotiations with Wisconsin.

Low Adams, leader of the train drivers' union Aslef, said last night: "We have been given the appalling figures by management and are still hoping to avert these redundancies."

They will strike at the efficiency of the industry and are totally unreasonable.

The three new private passenger operating companies are Stagecoach, Great Western Trains and the London, Tilbury and Southend line. They all hoped to take over from BR next week. They have made it clear they cannot guarantee all jobs and will have to review staff total.

Brian Wilson, Labour's transport spokesman said: "It is the same old story. The supposed miracle of privatisation means the loss of thousands of jobs and a reduction in working conditions. Passengers and employees will pay the price while shareholders help themselves to profits provided by the taxpayer."

Meanwhile, Railtrack executives are to meet the merchant bank Warburg, which is advising the Government, and potential investors to discuss the sale of the track operators this year. The Government wants to float Railtrack in May and is anxious to show the City that it is a good prospect in spite of political uncertainty surrounding privatisation.

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Sketch

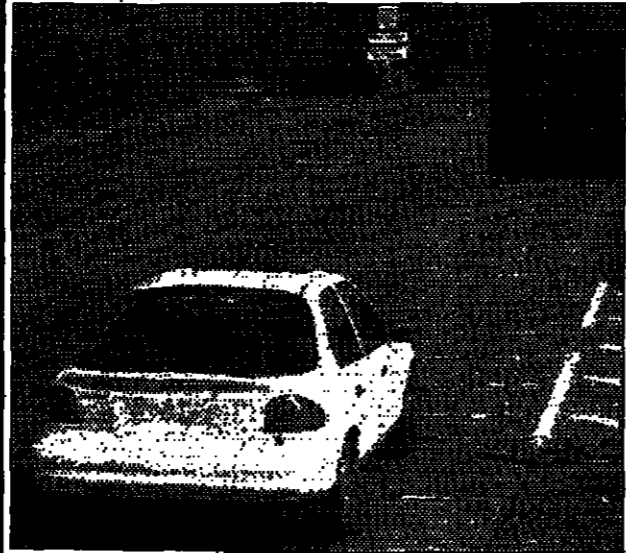
All you need is a band of old



Sally Weale

It was easy enough to find. The tell-tale queue of ageing rockers, their faded denim jackets plastered with badges, their long thinning hair blowing across their faces, gave it away. The Quo were in town. Yesterday saw the launch of Status Quo's 30th anniversary album in London, and Ann Brownbridge, a mother-of-two from York, did not intend to miss it. In celebration she picked up her imaginary guitar, flung down her head, and demonstrated the Quo dance with brain-bruising gusto. Ann, a factory worker who has followed the Quo around the world since 1968, has 750 of their records and queued for four days to see them at Wembley. When they broke up for a brief spell in the 1980s, she was bereft. "It was like a piece had gone out of my life."

but all eyes were on one man - Brian Wilson. It was a rare outing for the creative genius behind the Beach Boys. Wilson, aged 53, has spent years battling to keep his sanity. Yesterday he was in Brixton in body, if not always in mind. "Which is the one that went bonkers?" one photographer inquired less than discreetly. As if he had to ask. The tortured soul of Brian Wilson is as easy to spot as Francis Rossi's pitifully thin ponytail. At 6ft 2ins, his beefy bulk swathed in XL anorak, shabby jogging trousers and deck shoes, Wilson is unmistakable. His face is saggy and pallid, his movements shambling and his conversation can verge on the incoherent. For example - so Brian, what do you think of Status Quo's version of your classic hit? "They've captured the spirit. They made our '60s record easily listenable in the '90s. That's the whole trick." He stops. So far so good. He starts up again. "I'm so blown out by it, I could scream." Then: "When I get scared I listen to music."



A camera on the A505 measuring a car at 60mph in a 40mph limit. It also records date, time and registration number

Speed cameras have reduced accidents and generated revenue from fines. Now local authorities want the money so they can set up more, reports Vivek Chaudhary

Councils seek cash to set up more roadside spies

HUNDREDS more speed cameras could be on Britain's roads after a request by local authorities for the money from fines imposed on motorists caught by them. The Association of County Councils and the Association of Chief Police Officers have asked the Home Office to pledge the fine money claiming that while speed cameras have been successful in reducing accidents it will be difficult to set up more or maintain existing ones unless additional funds are made available. Speed cameras are set up by local authorities using their own money. With increased pressure on the police to concentrate on more traditional crimes, the cameras have been identified as an effective way of enforcing speed limits. The Home Office and the Department of Transport have appointed consultants to look at their effectiveness and the issue of funding. Figures released by Hertfordshire county council show that cameras along the A505 generated an estimated £250,000 in fine money since



Around 40,000 motorists were prosecuted last year after being caught speeding on camera PHOTOGRAPH: GARRY WEASER

being installed 18 months ago. They have cut accidents by 46 per cent, 60 per cent of all drivers obey the speed limit and around 500 drivers a month are being prosecuted. Cameras along the A316 in south London have cut accidents by 25 per cent, with average speeds dropping by five to seven miles an hour. Accidents involving personal injury fell by 41 per cent. In 1994, more than 20,000 motorists were prosecuted after being caught by speed cameras, and around 40,000 were prosecuted last year. That figure is expected to double for this year as more cameras are set up around the country. A spokesman for Hertfordshire county council said: "We are discussing the hypothesis of the fine money with the Home Office. At the moment the Lord Chancellor's department..." "Our view is that it should be redirected to local authorities because maintaining speed cameras is very costly and involves a lot of excess paper work. If some of the money was returned to us it would help us to maintain a costly system of cameras."

'As soon as I see the camera signs I slow down. I wait until there's no cameras and then I bomb it' THE statistics might show that speed cameras have been instrumental in reducing accidents, but as far as some drivers are concerned, they are a hindrance, writes Vivek Chaudhary. "They just get in the way. Traffic slows down and they make people nervous," said Alan Sheppard as he pulled into a petrol station on the A40, one of the main routes into London. "It's like when you see a police car on the road. Cars bunch up and that leads to more problems. It's the same with the cameras." White boards with a painting of a black box-shaped camera line the A40, warning that speeding will be met with a quick flash followed by a heavy fine. Most drivers pulling into the petrol station said they were aware they had passed a camera zone and had been watching their speed. "They do make you slow down because you know that there's very little you can say in your defence because they've got you on camera," said Anil Bangar, in a brand-new BMW. "My car can shift but as soon as I see the camera signs I slow down. I just wait until there's no cameras and then I know I can bomb it. I think that's what most drivers do."

First night

Snarling back on to the scene

Susan Corrigan

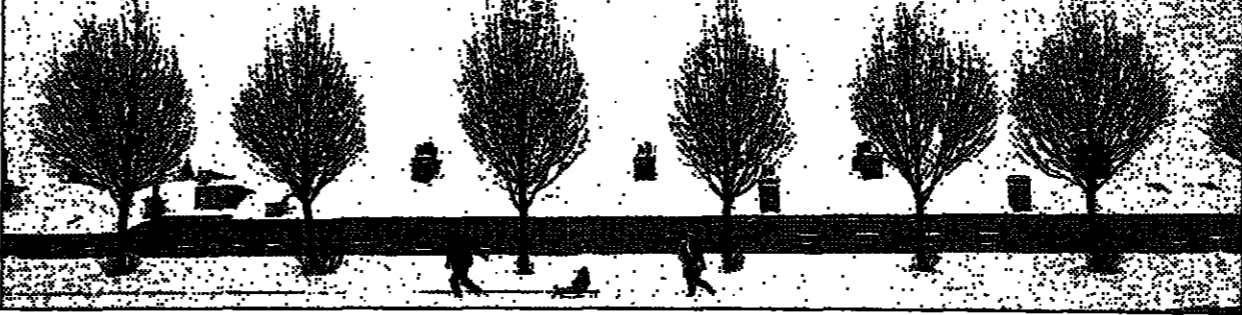
FOR NEARLY two years, circumstance has forced Suede's leader Brett Anderson to keep shtum while rivals such as Blur, Pulp or Oasis capitalised - critically and financially - on the musical agenda set by the singer. While Damon Albarn wrote accomplished three-minute manifestos on the state of modern Britain, Jarvis Cocker became lovable, and the brothers Gallagher indulged their all-lads-together need to turn the whole affair into little more than a willy-measuring contest. Suede were hiding their time. They had little choice. The precocious 19-year-old Richard Oakes, plucked from deepest Dorset as a replacement for Bernard Butler, who left the band acrimoniously, needed the hiatus to gel with his older, more experienced, song-writing partner. While the hype of Britpop burned on in the foreground, Suede fiddled. Saturday's unveiling of the lean, fighting Suede mark II served impolite notice to the pop cognoscenti, and not before time. Written by Anderson and soundtracked by Oakes, eight new songs unveiled at this secret gig in central London showed that Suede have made the most of their fallow period. Though these offerings will not appear on record until later this year, an audience of their fan club members appreciated the performance. The pinched, irritated

spectre of Butler loomed heavily, due mostly to the presence of the guitarist's last collaborator, the angel-voiced Steve Nieve, among the audience, who hassled him for his opinions and his autograph. A newly rake-thin and seemingly healthy Anderson, dressed down in the immaculate fitted white shirt and hipsters of yore, looked as if he was back to burn: snarling, performing acts of self-abuse with his microphone, inciting his audience of androgynous teens into a frenzy of Dionysian proportions. Like the singer, the new compositions are pared-down and direct, and they shock like a slap in the face. The lyricist has refined his approach. Suede's appeal has always stemmed from Anderson's ability to focus on the suffocating narcissism of relationships and the deadly importance of adolescent rebellion. Still consumed by love and obsession, but using the wisdom of maturity to make his lyrics simple and direct, Anderson triumphs over his words rather than being so obviously ruled by his thesaurus. If he is carried away, as in She and Lovely Day, this soaring quality is attributable only to the take-off of Anderson's stunning voice. Marry this to the plangent Mick Ronsonism of Oakes's playing, and romps like The Beautiful Ones and Lazy become poison pop singles-to-be, signifiers of outsider status. Hindsight always looks kindly on the bands who stick to their vision. Don't call Suede's return a comeback - that happens this spring.

Threat of worst blackouts in 20 years

Sarah Fyfe, Ian King and John Mullin

THE first widespread power blackouts in 20 years are threatened today as extreme weather conditions put unprecedented pressure on the National Grid. The newly privatised National Grid, which narrowly avoided blackouts over the weekend, warned the 12 regional electricity companies in England and Wales yesterday that cuts of 5 to 10 per cent in power levels might be necessary this afternoon. The electricity system has managed to escape shutdown by a close margin in the last six months. The three main power generating companies in England and Wales said they were bringing all available plant on line to cope with the record demand, but they were hit by weather-related and gas supply problems of their own. Nuclear Electric said its Hartlepool power station was



Making the most of snow in Bradford yesterday. The cold weather is expected to continue PHOTOGRAPH: TIM SMITH

running again from 6pm last night after losing half its output - equivalent to electricity for half a million homes - over the weekend. High winds indirectly triggered a safety mechanism which shut down part of the plant. It also rushed forward work at another northern station, Heysham, to create enough power for 250,000 households. Powergen and National Power were asked by the Grid to bring plant out of mothballs to help to avert the potential crisis, which could have plunged 2 million

homes into darkness over the weekend. A National Power spokesman said: "We will make everything available that we can but there is always some of the plant which is unavailable and it depends on whether the gas supply is there in full." British Gas's distribution company Transco had warned power stations and other big users on special contracts to expect their taps to be turned off because it could not supply all their needs. Powergen said it had brought two oil-fired and one coal-

fired station into use and was not affected by the interruptible contracts. Spokesman John Scott said: "We are hoping to trim back demand a little bit so that no one will lose supply." Several people died at the weekend because of the cold weather, and temperatures were dropping again last night after a brief thaw. Most of the fatalities came in car crashes, but one woman, Pauline Brown, a nurse, died after falling to make it to the door of her house in Workington after a night out

with friends. Neighbours found Mrs Brown, aged 37, who had taken a taxi home, within a foot of her door suffering from hypothermia, but she died 10 hours later in hospital. One woman died in an accident during snowfalls on the M1 in west Yorkshire, and another was seriously injured in a pile-up on the M1 at High, near Wakefield, which police blamed on the weather. Police were angry with a Derbyshire woman who went for a walk in a blizzard. Rescuers risked their lives to

release her from chest deep snow in the Peak District. Four climbers missing in treacherous weather overnight turned up safe and well in the Cairngorms, Aviemore. A man died in north London after his car skidded into the River Lea, and divers were searching for a second man believed to have been in the car. Police closed roads in several regions, with the Borders particularly hard hit. The roads were reopened last night, but officers expected many to be closed again when temperatures drop once more. The AA and RAC reported twice as many calls as usual, with drivers slithering off the roads in what they described as hellish conditions. The Government has started to pay cold weather benefit payments of up to £8.50 to thousands of pensioners and people on income support. Cold weather is likely to continue throughout the week, with freezing winds of up to 35mph blowing in from Russia, but further snowfalls are thought to be unlikely.

Redundancy fears as opportunity board plans budget cuts

Owen Bowcott THE Equal Opportunities Commission, celebrating 20 years of campaigning for fairness in the workplace, is being forced to consider mass redundancies - amid claims that board members may receive higher payments. The financial crisis, which has prompted threats of industrial action, has been precipitated by Treasury cuts which reduce the commission's overall budget by 5 per cent from April.

Negotiations over rival options have added to disagreements within the organisation - chaired by a commercial solicitor and former Conservative activist, Kamlesh Bahl - over the political and social priorities of the commission. Among cutbacks proposed are up to 20 redundancies, closing the EOC's library to the public, slashing by three-quarters grants available for fighting sex discrimination cases, and reducing the research budget. But what has angered the

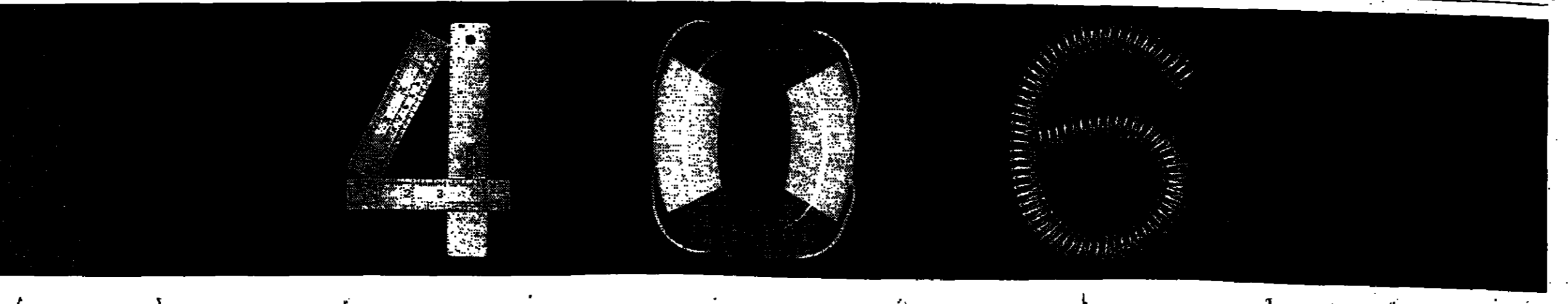
180 staff, most of whom work at the commission's head office in Manchester, are plans to recruit a second deputy chairwoman and an increase in the scheduled number of meetings of part-time commissioners. Since commissioners are partly paid by attendance, they stand to receive larger pay packets, trade union sources claim. Insisting that extra commission meetings would not lead to added expenses, Ms Bahl said: "We will consider all possible options. There is

a process of consultation taking place with staff and unions to make sure we can continue to provide the services we are obliged to by statute." More than 80 MPs have signed an early day motion in the Commons condemning the cutbacks. But in an amendment to the motion, Ann Winterton, Conservative MP for Congleton, accused the commission yesterday of a "deplorable imbalance" in the number of women it employs (82.4 per cent) compared with men (17.6 per cent),

Blair backs fast track in schools

continued from page 1 top of his agenda. He challenged the personal decisions of most government ministers to reject state schools altogether. "If a few more Conservative ministers actually used the state sector for their own children, they would come to realise what the real concerns of parents actually are," he says. However, Mr Major's performance has fuelled pressure in the group preparing the Conservative manifesto for faster progress towards aboli-

tion of local education authorities. The Conservatives also believe the breach they opened in Labour's defences will allow them to extend the charge of Labour hypocrisy right across the board. The Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, claimed yesterday that Labour's voting record showed it was traditionally on the side of the villain. Gordon Brown, the shadow chancellor, accused the Conservative Party of sinking to a new low in smears and dirty tricks.



مكتبة من الدول

Ethical not a bloo

Boy, dead

A

OW

Micha

# Ethiopians riot over 'blood bias'

Derek Brown in Jerusalem

ISRAELI authorities were sticking yesterday to their policy of destroying most donations to the country's blood bank, despite protests by thousands of Ethiopian immigrants who besieged the prime minister's office alleging official racism.

Their protest was sparked by the admission of health officials that almost all Ethiopian blood was destroyed for fear that its use in transfusions could spread Aids. Dozens were injured when police fired tear gas, rubber-coated bullets and water cannon to disperse the frenzied demonstration. At least 30 police were wounded when the Ethiopians hurled stones, at one point threatening to break through the cordon of guards around the building.

The battle lasted several hours. It ended when Shimon Peres, the prime minister, met a delegation of protesters, announcing later that the government would establish a committee of inquiry.

The Israel blood bank is to insert a line in the form for donors saying that medical discretion will govern the use of all donated blood.

Mr Peres "apologised in the name of the government and on his own behalf, even though none of the government members knew" about the disposal of donated blood. His spokeswoman said he praised the Ethiopian immigrants.

The daily newspaper, Ma'ariv, revealed last week that virtually all blood donated by Ethiopians is thrown away. Only donations of the rarest blood groups are frozen and checked after six months for the HIV virus.

Ephraim Sneh, the health minister, defended the policy, saying it also applied to other high-risk groups, such as homosexuals and drug abusers. Officials said Ethiopians were not told of the policy to save them embarrassment. "We thought that singling out an ethnic group and telling them to go home would be more offensive and embarrassing," an official from the blood transfusion service told the Jerusalem Post.

There was little sign of embarrassment, more of fury yesterday. "Although our skin is black, our blood is as red as yours and we are just as Jewish as you are," read one banner at the demonstration. "Apartheid in Israel", read another.

About 60,000 Ethiopian Jews have come to Israel in recent years. In 1984 and 1991 the government organised airlifts which brought in tens of thousands. More than 500 have been found to be carrying the HIV virus - 50 times the rate among other Israelis.

The blood donation affair is acutely embarrassing for many Israelis who are genuinely enthusiastic about the assimilation of such a large group of immigrants from a profoundly different culture.

But for many Ethiopians, it is the culmination of years of systematic discrimination in housing, employment, and even in religion.

The cities - homecoming - of Ethiopians was stoutly resisted by some orthodox elements, who disputed the Jewishness of the newcomers. Unlike Western strands of Judaism, where religion is interpreted by rabbis or intermediaries in the Ethiopian Jewish tradition. These were specifically rejected by the orthodox establishment.



And the winners are... (clockwise from top left) Kristin Scott-Thomas, named best actress for Angels and Insects; Jonathan Pryce, who took the best actor prize, with co-star Emma Thompson in Carrington; veteran director Lewis Gilbert, who received a special award; and Alan Bennett, best screenwriter for The Madness of King George

# Boy, 5, found dead from cold

Vivak Chaudhary

A FIVE-YEAR-OLD boy who went missing after going out to build a snowman has been found dead. There were no suspicious circumstances, police said last night.

A post mortem showed that Damien Williams, who disappeared from his home in Middlesbrough, Cleveland, on Saturday, died from exposure. A pathologist found "features consistent with death from hypothermia".

Damien's fully clothed body was found in the yard of a derelict house 200 yards from where he lived after search by police officers. Superintendent Maurice Jones said it appeared that Damien had fallen, become unconscious and died from the cold. Fifty officers had been detailed to search disused buildings where Damien was known to play. The head-up view of the body behind which the body was found had not been entered.

"The rear yard gate was closed and fastened but not locked," Mr Jones said. "The walls would have been very difficult for a five-year-old boy to climb over."

One theory is that Damien got into the yard but was unable to get out. The walls are more than 8ft high.

Mr Jones said there were no signs of a struggle. It was hoped that clues could be found from prints in the snow.

Damien, who has three brothers and sisters, was reported missing by his mother Patricia on Saturday afternoon.

A neighbour, Andrew Thomas, whose children played with Damien, said the boy knew the streets around his home well and often played in the back alleys.

"He was quieter than his brothers and he'd rather play on his own."

"He was always out on the streets or in the back alleys - I think he preferred it in the alleys, and people were always shouting at him to get out of them."

# Troops row puts £4bn aircraft deal with Emirates in jeopardy

David Fairhall Defence Correspondent

A \$4 BILLION contract to supply the United Arab Emirates with long-range strike aircraft seems to be slipping from Britain's grasp because London will not agree to put British troops under local Arab command.

The requirement of the deal is to supply the Gulf Emirates with a force of 80 bombers. Britain is offering refurbished Tornados, similar to those flown by the RAF, with a view to replacing them later with the Eurofighter 2000, which is under development in partnership with Germany, Italy and Spain. But in spite of a flying visit to the Gulf by the Defence Secretary, Michael Portillo, when he proposed despatching a pair of Tornados for desert trials, the UAE American aircraft, with a Russian bomber also in contention. "The United States and

France are at the top of the list", an official UAE source said yesterday. "Russia has a small chance, and Britain is out of the race."

The sticking point as far as Whitehall is concerned seems to be the Gulf Emirates' insistence that British troops serving in the UAE, either to support the Tornado sale or deployed under the terms of a memorandum of understanding currently being negotiated, should come under local command. Mr Portillo is reported to have declared this unacceptable, although the Arabs claim the French have agreed to such demands.

If this proves to be the case, British Aerospace, the UK partner in the tri-national Tornado programme, will be deeply disappointed. The contract is not only immensely valuable in its own right, but would open the door to lucrative long-term markets for the Eurofighter.

"Sharing and mixing is still a possibility," an official Arab source close to the negotiations said yesterday.

Michael Ellison Arts Correspondent

THE film version of Alan Bennett's play The Madness of King George, last night carried off almost half the prizes at the only cinema awards exclusively for British films.

The only surprise was that Nigel Hawthorne failed to win the Evening Standard best actor award for his performance in the film, which would not have been made without him.

Bennett, who took the prize for best screenplay, said: "I couldn't imagine doing it with anyone else except him. He made it all

such a happy experience." The writer fought the movie's American producers to keep Hawthorne. The 66-year-old, who reached a wider audience through his role as Sir Humphrey in television's Yes Minister, won an Oscar nomination last year for his King George performance and on the basis of last night's rejection rivals Salman Rushdie for the awards season's loser of the year title.

Bennett said: "Without Nigel Hawthorne's transcendent performance, the king could have been just a gabbling bore and his fate a matter of indifference."

However, Hawthorne did not expect to win the Oscar and told his co-star, Helen Mirren, early in the shoot that he did not think he was doing terribly well. The Madness of King George, which started life as a National Theatre play, also with Hawthorne in the lead, took two more of the Standard's eight prizes, for best film and for cinematography (Andrew Dunn).

The best actor award went to Jonathan Pryce for his performance as Lytton Strachey in Carrington. Pryce won the same prize at last year's Cannes film festival for the movie about the Bloomsbury set and the relationship between Strachey and the artist, Dora Carrington, played by

Emma Thompson. Kristin Scott-Thomas was named best actress for the second year running, this time for Angels and Insects. She won last year for her part in Four Weddings and A Funeral.

In Angels and Insects, Scott-Thomas plays a dour character called Matty who becomes involved with an entomologist. Slinster goes on quickly develop. Danny Boyle, the 29-year-old director who has been lumbered with the tag of Britain's Quentin Tarantino, was named most promising newcomer at the event, held at the Servey.

His £1 million debut, Shallow Grave, was the most successful British production at the box-office over the past year and his next movie, Trainspotting, is one of the most talked-about of the year, a month before it is released. Shallow Grave is a thriller about three Edinburgh flatmates who discover a case full of cash beside the corpse of a fellow lodger.

Boyle, who spent five years directing at the Royal Court before moving into television drama, said: "I suppose Shallow Grave is cruel, but then life can be cruel and cold. There are other sides of life, of course, but the film doesn't choose to look at them."

Peter Chelsom, director and co-writer of Funny Bones, collected the Peter Sellers Award for Comedy. It was presented to him by Leslie Carron, who starred in the film.

Funny Bones, which is set in 1950s Blackpool, has put the comedian, Lee Evans, on the verge of stardom in America. Chelsom previously directed Hear My Song.

The veteran director, Lewis Gilbert, whose films include Reach For the Sky, The Admirable Crichton, Carve Her Name With Pride and Educating Rita, received a special award in recognition of his contribution to British film-making.

# I'm staying, says Sarah

New court hearing today as child bride pledges that Turkey is now her home

Sally Weale

THE High Court in London is due to consider again today the fate of the 19-year-old girl who married a Turkish waiter in an illegal Muslim ceremony, after efforts over the weekend failed to persuade her to return to Britain.

Sarah Cook, from Braintree, Essex, is refusing to leave the Turkish town of Kahramanmaraş, where her 18-year-old "husband" is in jail facing a charge of statutory rape after their marriage three weeks ago. Yesterday, in an apparent show of defiance, she kissed the Koran to illustrate her love for her adopted country. Sarah, who married with

her parents' consent, has had two weekend meetings with her "husband", unemployed waiter Musa Komeagac. Before the first, she made clear her desire to stay. "I love Musa, I love his family, I love this country. I don't want to go back," she said.

Her mother Jackie Cook, aged 37, and British diplomats have been trying to convince Sarah she should leave Turkey following a High Court hearing last Wednesday during which she was made a ward of court and ordered to return forthwith.

There were reports yesterday that Mrs Cook was making arrangements to fly back to Britain, but the Foreign Office said that as far as they were aware, Mrs Cook was still with her daughter and Sarah had shown no change of heart.

"It's for Sarah to change her mind or for her parents to persuade her," a Foreign Office spokesman said. Today Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, will consider the case

again and is expected to hear a report from Essex social services. Sarah's father, Adrian Cook, aged 42, may also be called to give evidence.

The High Court order is not legally enforceable in Turkey. Other options the judge might consider are a request to the Foreign Office to make representations to the Turkish government, or to the police, who could make an approach to police in Turkey.

In addition to Sarah's personal wishes, she is under some pressure to remain in Turkey to appear as a witness in Komeagac's case, which has been adjourned until February 15.

Such is the level of local feeling that when Sarah walks in the town she has made her home, she is mobbed by supporters who applaud and give her presents. Turkish supporters have laid a bouquet of carnations in front of the British consulate in Istanbul with the message "Tolerance for Love", urging that she should be allowed to stay in Turkey.

**"No, no,"** Mirror editor Piers Morgan cries, raising his hands defensively. **"I'm certainly not plunging up-market. Nobody who's read the paper since I took over can really believe that."** He is right. Since he arrived from the Sun in November, at the tender age of 30, there has been no hint of an upwards plunge. Rather, the evidence is that he is trying to out Sun the Sun, with louder headlines, rafts of royal "exclusives", acres of show-business coverage and front-page pictures calculated to shock.

**Michael Leapman G2 page 8**

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News in brief

Bishops defend lottery 'fun'

THREE of the four winners of this week's £40.22 million double-rollover National Lottery jackpot claimed their prizes yesterday.

Each winner will receive £10,055,900. The winning numbers were 16, 17, 38, 41, 42 and 43. The bonus number was 28.

The Bishop of London, Richard Chartres, yesterday described the lottery as "pantomime fun".

Shoppers' plastic spree

SHOPPERS are making greater use of debit cards, according to figures released yesterday by the Credit Card Research Group.

Total spending last year with credit cards topped £41 billion, 15 per cent more than in 1994, while debit cards totalled £28 billion, an increase of almost 20 per cent.

The figures showed that consumers still tended to pay for more expensive goods and services with credit cards.

'Bobby' church window to go

SHERBORNE Abbey has won a five-year legal battle to remove a decaying Victorian stained-glass window, designed by Pugin in 1851.

A church appeal court, sitting on Saturday at St Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, London, upheld last year's decision by a consistory court that the Dorset parish may replace the window with a contemporary work by a local artist.

The vicar, Eric Woods, said he was delighted at the decision and the church would now get "a more worthy" window.

Canteen price inflation

THE number of workplace canteens has fallen drastically over the past decade and meal prices had gone up above the rate of inflation, a survey by the Labour Research Department disclosed yesterday.

The average price of a cup of tea had gone up by 21 per cent since 1991 — from 14p to 17p — while inflation increased by 14 per cent. A cup of coffee jumped 18 per cent, from 18p to 19p.

Call for 'city regions'

FIFTY-THREE new "city regions" should be the cornerstones of a restructured local government system for Britain, administered by a regional civil service, the City Region Campaign, a pressure group for reform, said yesterday.

Two paid-elected members from every parliamentary constituency would be members of the new authorities, which would determine policy on education, housing, social services, and other areas of local government, but leave smaller district councils to carry them out.

TV advert 'violent'

An advertisement in which a rugby player was shown having his head kicked off was upsetting to children, the Independent Television Commission rules today.

The advertisement showed a rugby player balancing a ball on his head, but having his head kicked off rather than the ball. Complainants found the treatment excessively violent and two reported distress among children.

Downwardly mobile in Britain

SOCIAL mobility measured by income may be greater in Britain than in the United States, university researchers claim today.

Although the US is traditionally seen as the land of opportunity, a contrast to class-bound Britain, there was preliminary evidence that the reverse may now be the case.

Ronay warns on tips

THE food critic Egon Ronay has warned consumers that the regulation of restaurant tips could be little more than a recipe for increased meal prices.

The Earl of Bradford, whose private member's bill has been endorsed by the Lords, says outlawing hidden extras will make restaurant bills clear for diners.

Smokecloak Limited

A DIARY item on January 17 referred to a malfunctioning "smoke cloak" alarm at the premises of a Slough computer company.

Harman row over double standards gives Major something to smile about

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

THE BATTLE lines of the election campaign began to emerge this weekend as John Major and Tony Blair set out their central programmes in the wake of the furious row over Harriet Harman's decision to send her son to a selective grammar school.

Writing in the Guardian today, Tony Blair claims: "There are two futures for Britain. The Tories offer a Britain split into two tiers, with affluent communities turned into private fortresses against the world outside."

John Major promised in the Sunday Telegraph that the return of the feelgood factor promised better Tory times ahead. "I like elections. I am beginning to sniff the wind and feeling much happier about it."

His happiness, in part, stems from the breakthrough he achieved at Westminster over education, but also from a greater coherence in Tory high command over how to attack Labour.

Central Office has been wrestling with three options. The first, supported by the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, is to claim Labour is elitist, but a mass of soundbites and not equipped for the serious business of government.

The second is the so-called Coca-Cola strategy — to claim that New Labour is only a pale imitation of the Conservatives and the electorate would be wise to stick with the real thing.

In detail, Mr Major seems determined to highlight three threats from Labour — its economic policies, its plans for the constitution and Labour values, notably its persistent belief in equality, the state and a new ingredient, Labour leaders' personal double standards.

On the economy, the Conservatives are hoping this year's rise in living standards — the first since the end of the recession — will erase the memory of tax rises.

The Deputy Prime Minister Michael Heseltine conceded the Government's economic message had made little impact. "As yet their living standards have been subject to the ... pressure to win that battle against inflation."

The "enterprise centre of Europe", the phrase first uttered by Mr Major at the Tory party conference last year, will be the umbrella slogan to conjure up an image of a deregulated economy free from rule by Brussels.

Labour will argue modernising supply side reforms, such as higher school standards and a more effective welfare state, are vital.

Chris Smith, the shadow social security secretary, said he was interested in the principle of one-off revenue-raising schemes to kick start programmes designed to help



John Major: 'sniffing the wind'

Table titled 'The battleground' comparing Tory and Labour policies on Economy, Constitution, Values, and Education.



Tony Blair: 'one nation vision'

None of these strategies is wholly mutually exclusive, but if one course is being favoured more than another, it is the third. That explains the Tory decision to claim Mr Blair's policy of a stakeholder economy was a return to corporatism, rather than a pale imitation of the Tory vision of a shareholder economy.

side children a year or more older according to their ability and interest in particular subjects.

Mr Blunkett said: "This is very radical. It is the antidote to selection. The problem with selection is that it excludes the vast majority and only manages to cope with classes of the same academic ability. Our Marches mixed comprehensive approach will deal with different achievement levels at different ages by offering pupil-centred education which builds on pupils' strengths at all times in their educational development."

accelerated learning at sink schools in the inner city. "He has blown what we do out of all proportion. Two boys took their maths GCSE two years ahead of schedule in 1994. They would take maths A-level this summer when the other children in their age group did GCSE. But both boys had stayed in the same class as their contemporaries. Their extra tuition had been given voluntarily. "I reckon the secret of the school is its location on a good site, the Shropshire veneration for education, and strong leadership from the head, supported by a dedicated staff. You can't transport that wholesale into the inner city ..."

How school put Labour on to the learning fast track

Blunkett undeterred as governor pours cold water on scheme

John Carvel, Education Editor

THE seeds of Tony Blair's plan to reform comprehensive education by hot-housing the brightest children were planted last summer when his shadow cabinet colleague, David Blunkett, visited a Shropshire school



David Blunkett: selection 'excludes the vast majority'

Bouncing up to A-level PE

A DOUBLE somersault on the trampolines or running rings around the opposition's central defender could now earn students more than just a little praise from the games teacher, writes John Carvel.

The ups and downs of academic life will get a new dimension this year when the Associated Examining Board gives marks for sporting ability in its physical education A level.

In an attempt to add an extra bounce to the curriculum, the board, one of the biggest in the country, will give 7½ per cent of the total marks for trampolining skills in addition to the existing options of athletics, gymnastics and swimming.

Authority and will be available to students starting their two-year A level course in September.

George Turnbull, spokesman for the board, said last night that there was no question of diluting the academic rigour of A levels. The new options were part of a streamlining of the syllabus to combine the physical education and sports studies exams which about 14,000 students were expected to take in 1997.

where two clever 15-year-olds were being groomed for early success at A-level maths.

He was not deterred by the fact that one of the school's most influential pupils, Sarah Biffen, an aspiring Tory candidate and wife of John Biffen, the former Conservative Leader of the Commons, who yesterday poured cold water on the Labour scheme.

The idea has developed into the proposal which Mr Blair will announce today for introduction of "accelerated learning" in secondary schools, allowing children to be grouped in sets for different subjects according to ability and interest, rather than by age.

The aim would be to stretch the most gifted pupils by placing them alongside children a year or more older according to their ability and interest in particular subjects.

Students preferring not to seek 15 per cent of their marks according to their ability on field or track would be able to write a 3,000-word dissertation.

"This A level has gone through a very strict pilot phase since it was first introduced in 1986," Mr Turnbull said. "It is very much an academic subject, like any other A level. It provides the missing link between the physical education GCSE taken by 68,000 students last year and the physical education degree at university."

Advertisement for Voluntary Euthanasia Society featuring a woman and text: 'If you care about a better life, don't you care about a better death?' Includes contact information and a 'FREE ADVANCE DIRECTIVE' offer.

Advertisement for The Guardian newspaper: 'To advertise in The Guardian please call 0171 239 9735'

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page: 'Minis puts of old at £4' and 'Entertainments'.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom center: 'مكتبة من الرويل'

# Minister puts cost of old age at £40,000

David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent

PEOPLE should budget to spend up to £40,000 on residential or nursing home care in their old age, John Bowis, the junior health minister, said yesterday.

Such a bill was "manageable" for most people and their families in view of the realisable assets in increased home ownership, he said.

The Institute for Public Policy Research, the left-of-centre think tank, today publishes a report on the mounting costs of long-term care for elderly and chronically ill people.

The issue is causing concern across the political spectrum. Many Conservative MPs are worried by the number of constituents being forced to sell their homes to meet care costs.

Mr Bowis said on The World This Weekend on BBC Radio 4 that there was nothing new in people being asked to pay for their care. What had changed was that people were living longer and more owned their own homes.

"For most people, if you take the average stay in a nursing home of some two

years, or the average stay in a residential care home of three years, the cost is perhaps £30,000-£40,000. For most people, that's a manageable sum out of their income... perhaps topped up by family.

Some people who stay longer in care homes did face a "real problem", he said. The Government had announced measures, and were consulting on others, to solve it.

"For the longer term, ministers are consulting on the idea of partnership schemes with the pensions and insurance industries. One suggestion is that the state should take over care costs after perhaps three years.

Mr Bowis denied that local authorities were getting insufficient funds to run the system. But Tad Kubisa, president of the Association of Directors of Social Services, said: "We have cut our administrative support to the point where administrators are not there to support our frontline workers."

Mr Bowis said government funding was fair, and most authorities were coping well. "We have cut our administrative support to the point where administrators are not there to support our frontline workers."

## Funding Long Term Care

	Nursing Residential homes	Residential
Average Weekly Cost	£310	£242
Numbers in care homes	State-funded 129,000	133,000
Sell-paying	41,000	61,000

Source: Long & Bussey/IFPR/1994 figures

## Birth defects prompt new MoD look at Gulf syndrome

David Fairhall, Defence Correspondent

A FRESH effort to isolate the medical causes of Gulf war syndrome will be announced this week by the Ministry of Defence, under pressure from veterans who suspect their children's birth defects can be traced back to it.

The initiative follows a meeting of medical specialists convened last week by the Surgeon General, Vice-Admiral Tony Revell, and the Royal College of Physicians, at which the next steps in the three-year-old investigation were discussed. Among those present was Professor Sir Colin Berry, a specialist in birth defects from the Royal London Hospital.

The main outcome is expected to be a wider statistical, epidemiological study to establish whether the

instance of illnesses suffered by veterans since 1991 is disproportionate and may therefore be directly linked to their Gulf service. The prime suspect among many possible causes is the "cocktail" of vaccinations, anti-nerve gas tablets and insecticides administered to troops.

About 51,000 British men and women served in the Gulf war. MoD doctors have so far examined 350 veterans, with illnesses ranging from fatigue to cancer, without accepting the existence of a Gulf war syndrome that might justify claims for compensation — provided official negligence could also be proved.

Solicitors with up to 600 similar cases on their books were asked last week to encourage more of their clients to come forward. But the lawyers have accused the ministry of denying access to their clients' medical records.



Heading back... Three of the 1,600 rockers who turned the clock back to the 50s and 60s on Saturday for the 13th annual Rockers' Reminon at Battersea Arts Centre, London, which attracted enthusiasts from Europe, the United States and Japan.

## Corpse may hold clue to killer 'Bible John'

Erland Clouston

DETECTIVES may examine a corpse in an attempt to solve one of Scotland's most enduring and notorious murder mysteries.

Strathclyde police yesterday refused to confirm or deny a weekend report that they will shortly take swabs from the remains of a man they suspect was "Bible John" — an enigmatic, Scripture-quoting figure popularly linked with the killings of three Glasgow women.

An examination of the DNA in semen recently discovered on the tights of Helen Puttock, last seen in Bible John's

company early on October 31, 1969, have strengthened links between her death and an ex-Scotts Guardsman turned furniture salesman who had figured in early police inquiries.

Genetic tests on relatives of the man, who committed suicide in 1980, have proved positive.

The police are now said to have applied to the procurator-fiscal for permission to disinter his body, buried in a Lanarkshire cemetery.

Superintendent Louis Munn said yesterday: "After extensive police inquiries, including the use of the latest technology, Strathclyde police can confirm that we are following a definite line of

inquiry in relation to the death of Helen Puttock, whose body was found in Scotland, Glasgow, on October 31, 1969.

"Police inquiries are continuing in this respect and a full report will be submitted to the procurator-fiscal."

Mrs Puttock, a 29-year-old married woman, was found strangled 100 yards from her home after she had spent the evening with her sister Jeannie at Glasgow's Barrowland dance hall.

She was the third Barrowland patron to die in this manner in 20 months, sparking speculation of a serial killer.

What elevated the murder further above the ordinary

was Jeannie's recollections of the conversation she and her sister shared in the taxi with the well-spoken "John" who ultimately saw Helen almost home.

His references to Moses, dens of iniquity and adulterous women gave Jeannie the distinct impression that he was a religious obsessive who knew his Bible well. He also said he spent the new year celebrations praying.

Around 5,000 people were eliminated from inquiries in the course of what was Scotland's biggest-ever manhunt.

The man whose grave the police now wish to investigate was put on an identity parade shortly after Helen Puttock's

body was discovered. He was a promising suspect, a defector from the strict Brethren sect who was known to frequent the Barrowland. "John" also matched the description of the tall, slim, smartly-dressed figure remembered by Jeannie and those who recalled the dance partner of Jeannie McDonald, murdered two months earlier.

If the DNA tests prove conclusively that the divorced father did assault (and therefore presumably murder) Helen Puttock, Strathclyde police will be left with another puzzler: how could the victim's sister have failed to recognise a man she shared a taxi with for five miles?



The work and thoughts of Sam Fitton... "Those high flying birds who seem to think that bullying means discipline, must have their wings clipped!"

## Cartoon memory of mill life

Lecturers rediscover artist who drew from spinners' grievances, writes Martyn Halsall

THE lost court jester of the Lancashire cotton industry has been rescued from historic obscurity by Manchester academics intrigued by his weaving of primitive cartoons with dialect politics.

Sam Fitton was celebrated as a painter, journalist, playwright and entertainer, but it was as the Cotton Factory Times' cartoonist between 1907 and 1917 that he entertained a generation of spinners, piecers, tuckers and weavers.

Fitton, who entered the mills as a "half-time" at the age of 10, reckoned the half million workforce deserved something to smile about. He produced more than 450 cartoons alone for

the Cotton Factory Times, which had been founded in 1855 to give a voice to large unions like the Cardroom Amalgamation and small ones like the Nelson and Colne District Association of Warp Dressers.

Alan Fowler and Terry Wyke, lecturers at the Manchester Metropolitan University, say in a new book celebrating Fitton's long-forgotten achievements: "Although the cartoons were rarely original in technique, they were unique in focusing on a single industry."

"The camera rarely went into the mill except on such special occasions as a royal visit or a coming-of-age celebration."

Fitton's drawings aired workers' grievances of tuckers' (overseers) oaths, weavers' fines, and frequent mill accidents. He died in 1925 and lies in a "somewhat neglected grave" in Crompton cemetery, near Oldham.

Mirth in the Mill by Alan Fowler and Terry Wyke, Oldham Leisure Services: £8.95.

## Entertainments

THEATRE LONDON		MUSIC EXTRA		OVERSEAS	
<b>FAME THE MUSICAL</b> 0171 344 4444 (24 hrs)	<b>DO NOT DRESS FOR DINNER</b> T. Out. 0171 344 4444	<b>THE SHAKESPEARE REVUE!</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>THE ALTERNATIVE PIANO SALE!</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>POLAND, CZECH REPUBLIC, HUNGARY</b> 10 day holidays with half board	<b>FLIGHT MARKET</b> EASTERN SHORT BREAK FLIGHTS
<b>SUNSET BOULEVARD</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>THE CHANGING ROOM</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>FLIGHT MARKET</b> MADRID, VIENNA, SANTIAGO, BATHING	<b>FLYDRIVES</b> ORLANDO SUMMER 1996
<b>PETULA CLARK</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>THE WOMAN IN BLACK</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>BEST MUSICAL</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>LA BOHÈME</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>FLIGHT MARKET</b> LONDON, VIENNA, SANTIAGO, BATHING	<b>FLYDRIVES</b> ORLANDO SUMMER 1996
<b>ALBERT HUBBARD</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>AN INSPECTOR CALLS</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>BEST MUSICAL</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>LA BOHÈME</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>FLIGHT MARKET</b> LONDON, VIENNA, SANTIAGO, BATHING	<b>FLYDRIVES</b> ORLANDO SUMMER 1996
<b>THE LONG &amp; THE SHORT &amp; THE TALL</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>ZOE WARRAMAKER</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>BEST MUSICAL</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>LA BOHÈME</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>FLIGHT MARKET</b> LONDON, VIENNA, SANTIAGO, BATHING	<b>FLYDRIVES</b> ORLANDO SUMMER 1996
<b>THE FIELDS OF AMBROSIA</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>DEAD GUILTY</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>BEST MUSICAL</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>LA BOHÈME</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>FLIGHT MARKET</b> LONDON, VIENNA, SANTIAGO, BATHING	<b>FLYDRIVES</b> ORLANDO SUMMER 1996
<b>APOLLO LABRATS</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>MISS SAIGON</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>BEST MUSICAL</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>LA BOHÈME</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>FLIGHT MARKET</b> LONDON, VIENNA, SANTIAGO, BATHING	<b>FLYDRIVES</b> ORLANDO SUMMER 1996
<b>APOLLO LABRATS</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>MISS SAIGON</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>BEST MUSICAL</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>LA BOHÈME</b> 0171 344 4444	<b>FLIGHT MARKET</b> LONDON, VIENNA, SANTIAGO, BATHING	<b>FLYDRIVES</b> ORLANDO SUMMER 1996

January 29 1996

# lards

## e about

fast track

If you about better life, about better death?

FREE ADVANCE DIRECTIVE

V E

6 WORLD NEWS

Swazi king calls out his warriors as unions refuse to end strike

Chris McGreal in Manzini, Swaziland

THE King of Swaziland has threatened to call out his warriors to put down a week-long general strike aimed at taking the monarchy out of politics and introducing elected government.

Accusing union leaders of plotting his overthrow, an angry King Mswati III ordered his subjects at the weekend to return to work today or face the wrath of his regiments, which he told to prepare for war.

Trades union leaders have repeatedly said that the protest — the longest strike in the tiny kingdom's history — is not aimed at the monarchy as an institution, which remains widely popular among the traditionalist Swazis.

Deeply attached though Swazis are to the monarchy, King Mswati, aged 37, provokes differing opinions.

His weekend appearance before his warriors, with red feathers in his hair, a spear in his hand and a leopard skin slung across his shoulder, was on open ground at the bleak royal kraal. It is a far cry from the splendour of the palace he has fitted with a glass swimming pool and disco, and filled with luxury cars that have come to symbolise the public doubts about royal authority.

Swazis know where the money comes from. It is either the national treasury or the royal business interests which dominate the economy. Meanwhile most people are getting poorer and corruption is spreading.



King tested... Mswati III, wearing traditional headdress, speaks to his people during the 25th independence anniversary celebrations three years ago

The rot set in before King Mswati came to power as a teenager in 1988. But he continues to defend the political system introduced after his father, King Sobhuza II, imposed a state of emergency in 1973 when three parliamentary seats were won by opposition candidates.

The Westminster-style constitution introduced at independence from Britain five years earlier was scrapped. Political parties were banned and MPs were effectively appointed by the monarchy.

Under pressure at home and from foreign donors, including Britain, King Mswati

finally allowed direct elections for 55 of the 96 seats in 1993. But political parties remain banned and candidates are not allowed to campaign. The king continues to appoint the cabinet and prime minister and to rule through royal councils.

Even minor concessions are too much for some in the royal fold who have everything to lose. The king will always be provided for but the latest prime minister, Prince Mbilini Dlamini, is typical of members of a clan who fear that giving way to public pressure will cost them more than political power.

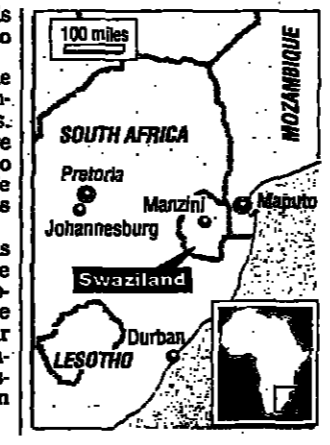
Members of the Dlamini family make large amounts of money from business interests and monopolies of trade in rural areas which they control virtually as feudal lords. Dozens of the king's half brothers and sisters and a retinue of other relatives hold jobs in the civil service.

But the writing is on the wall. Even though political parties are banned, King Mswati has been forced to accept the existence of organisations such as the People's Democratic Movement. It cannot hold meetings and its president, Kisofo Shongwe, is harassed. But almost every

Swazi has heard of it and it is recognised as the de facto opposition.

Mr Shongwe said: "People want a constitutional monarch who is above politics. At the moment, executive power lies with people who operate in the shadows. We want a parliament that is supreme."

Even if the strike fails this time, King Mswati must have got the message that his subjects want the kind of change they have seen across their borders, where Nelson Mandela has made clear his disdain for Swaziland's stubborn royal rulers.



Separatist to govern Quebec

Bouchard's role could be decisive, Claire Trevena in Toronto writes

THE most popular politician in Quebec, the separatist leader Lucien Bouchard, is to be sworn in as the province's premier today.

The ceremony comes in the wake of a poll which shows that 60 per cent of Quebecers believe the province will become a sovereign state within 10 years. The hope of secessionists is that with someone of Mr Bouchard's stature and popularity leading the provincial Parti Québécois, a future referendum on autonomy will be approved by Quebecers.

There was no race to take over from Jacques Parizeau, the pro-secession premier who resigned after blaming the loss of October's independence referendum on "the ethnic vote".

Once it was known that Mr Bouchard, who led the separatists in the federal parliament, was interested in the job no one doubted he would get it.

But Mr Bouchard, whose smooth political skills and vibrant personality increased the separatist vote in last year's independence poll — bringing it within one percentage point of victory — is adopting a low key approach.

Separation from the rest of Canada is still the goal, but echoing the respondents to the poll, an ultimate rather than immediate one.

First Mr Bouchard, who has never played provincial politics, will have to improve Quebec's economy. And like provincial leaders across the country his priority is reducing the province's \$6 billion (\$2.4 billion) deficit.

"We are crushed by an unacceptably heavy load of debt," he said last week in his nomination speech in the constituency which is sure to elect him to the provincial legislature.

"With our expenses we haven't yet been able to control the deficit, which means we've borrowed and mortgaged the future of our children to buy the groceries."

to Quebec's much cherished social programmes for the sake of the deficit, and swiftly sheds his hero's cloak.

That may be unlikely, because of Mr Bouchard's immense popularity, but there will inevitably be friction when the hero comes home with \$1 billion worth of cuts to make.

Mr Bouchard will be able to blame the cuts his government will enact on the mismanagement of the previous Liberal government in Quebec and on the present deficit-cutting Liberal federal government in Ottawa. He is revered in the province. A boy from rural Chicomini, in northern Quebec, he has come back as the embodiment to save the province.

Mr Bouchard left the Conservative Party to form the independent Bloc Québécois at the national level, and led it to a sweeping victory.

He led his party to a sweeping victory in the last national election.

in the last national election. Its success made him leader of the federal opposition.

In Ottawa he refused to live in Stornaway, the house reserved for the opposition leader, preferring to stay across the river in Hull, Quebec.

Now in Quebec City he is refusing to take over the mansion occupied by his predecessor, Mr Parizeau, preferring something a little less ostentatious.

Although he initially talked of the possibility of another independence referendum in 1997, that date is no longer being mentioned. He will need a new mandate to call another referendum.

The federalists in Ottawa are already gearing up for the next referendum. In the recriminations and fall out from the last vote, the Ottawa government was accused of being unprepared for the separatist's success.

A cabinet reshuffle last week brought in a number of new names from Quebec, including two who are not elected MPs, to work out a strategy for the province and the country.

'Harridan' Hillary gives Bill hard time

Jonathan Freedland in Washington

HILLARY CLINTON is a harridan with a dark side who humiliates her husband by scolding him in public. White House aides were reported to have told an American magazine yesterday.

"Mrs Clinton has been known to berate her husband in front of staff in what some aides consider a shocking display of disrespect," US News and World Report claimed.

In a report based on interviews with former and current White House advisers, the magazine depicts Mrs Clinton as directing her fierce temper at Bill Clinton.

"How could you be so damn stupid?" she is said to have shouted at him last year, allegedly criticising him for becoming too involved in legislative battles. Witnesses were paralysed with embarrassment, US News said.

The conservative news magazine reported that



Hillary Clinton: her poll ratings are at a record low

Mrs Clinton was "liable to shout when something goes wrong", and that her aides feared setting her off.

The damaging report is the latest salvo to Mrs Clinton, who had a four-hour interrogation about the Whitewater affair by a federal grand jury last Friday. It was the first time a First Lady had been summoned to such a hearing.

A Newsweek poll released yesterday found that half America believes Mrs Clinton is not telling the truth about Whitewater. Her ratings are the lowest ever for a First Lady, and she is the only one to enjoy less public esteem than her husband.

The White House press secretary, Mike McCurry, acted quickly to dismiss the US News portrait of Mrs Clinton, which he said was "wildly inaccurate".

He said: "A lot of this smacks of second and third-hand accounts of people who probably resented her role at the White House."

But the magazine portrait does match other accounts. In 1993 secret service bodyguards reportedly saw Mrs Clinton throwing an object — either a lamp or a Bible — at her husband during a row in their bedroom.

Mrs Clinton has denied the episode, and rejected claims that she sought to prevent other leaks by demanding new guards for the White House quarters.

Primary Colors, an anonymous new novel based on

the Clintons, portrays the First Lady as a fearsome figure liable to tongue-lash her wayward husband. In her first appearance in the book, the Hillary Clinton character calls her spouse a "faithless, thoughtless, disorganised, undisciplined shit".

The book is said to be so accurate that Washington observers are convinced its author belongs to the Clintons' innermost circle.

White House officials now hope that Friday's appearance before the grand jury — a panel of 23 ordinary citizens who decide whether there are grounds for criminal charges — means that the worst is over for Mrs Clinton.

Newsweek's poll provided some comfort, however: although 50 per cent of Americans said they did not believe Mrs Clinton, 75 per cent said her Whitewater troubles would not affect their vote in November's presidential election, and it showed Mr Clinton leading the Republican front-runner, Bob Dole, by 52 to 43 per cent.

Red Cross plans Kabul airlift as 1m under siege face starvation

Gerald Bourke in Islamabad

WITH its food stocks in the besieged Afghan capital due to run out tomorrow, the International Red Cross plans to start an emergency airlift into Kabul with 48 flights carrying 20 tonnes of food each.

The airlift, to begin later this week, is to help relieve the more than one million people who face starvation unless forces opposed to President Burhanuddin Rabbani lift their two-week blockade of the capital, aid officials said yesterday.

"We estimate that 95 per cent of Kabul's 1.2 million inhabitants are facing severe food and heating-fuel shortages," Francois Zen Ruffinen, a senior official of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), said.

The ICRC is particularly concerned about the 100,000 Kabulites dependent on its feeding programmes. Many have been widowed, orphaned or disabled by the war.

The price of scarce staple foods has doubled since the last open road into the city — from Pakistan in the east — was sealed by anti-government mujahedin when their leader centralised the collection of their hefty informal taxes.

Supply routes from the north, south and west were closed months ago by other armies struggling to oust Dr Rabbani's regime.

The onset of the coldest winter in years, with temperatures plummeting to minus 23C, has made the approaching humanitarian catastrophe all the more acute, aid workers said.

Intense rocket and artillery exchanges between rival Islamic factions since the overthrow of the communist administration in 1993 have left Kabul without electricity and many homes badly damaged.

Last week the government closed the city's meat markets, accusing supply-strapped butchers of profiteering. Most bakeries have closed for lack of flour.

The United Nations, which says an airlift is beyond its means, classed 50 per cent of Kabul's population as "most vulnerable" — up from 20 per cent a fortnight ago.

"It's not possible to calculate how many have died so far," Martin Barber, head of the UN's relief operation for Afghanistan, said yesterday.

"But everyone in Kabul knows someone who has died from cold and malnutrition," he added: "It's one of those silent tragedies. You're not going to see appallingly malnourished people on the streets of Kabul; they're suffering in their homes."

Four months after the launch of the latest 12-month UN appeal, donors have committed a mere 18 per cent of the \$124 million (\$82 million) minimum required.

Some donor countries say the Kabul government could do more to ease the city's suffering. They claim Dr Rabbani's garrison, estimated at up to 36,000-strong, remains well-fed, and is buying large quantities of weapons before

a predicted upsurge in fighting in the spring.

Analysts believe the factions blockading the eastern highway are mercenary and may soon be bought off.

Aid workers said last night that 150 trucks, carrying enough food to feed Kabul for a day, had been allowed into the capital at the weekend.

They were unable to confirm whether this was a one-off concession or the beginning of the end of the siege.

News in brief

French nuclear test 'may not be last'

FRANCE may carry out another nuclear test in the south Pacific, despite the expectation that Saturday's explosion — the sixth since September — would be the last. Defence officials said a decision whether to close down the Fangataufa and Moruroa atoll sites would be made only after the results of the six underground tests had been analysed.

Last month President Jacques Chirac said the original eight-test programme, which ended a three-year moratorium, would be curtailed and ended long before the May deadline.

News of the latest test inspired further protests from Pacific and European countries — including Japan, Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines. — Paul Webster, Paris. Leader comment, page 11

'Most Bosnian POWs go free'

THE vast majority of Bosnia's known prisoners of war were back in friendly hands last night, after the Serbs followed Muslims and Croats in freeing most of their captives.

The Red Cross said the Serbs released 74 PoWs at Sarajevo airport, and the Muslim-led government in northern Bosnia, bringing the total freed at the weekend to more than 500.

Red Cross officials said the Serbs were also due to free 70 PoWs in northern Bosnia yesterday, but could not confirm this had happened.

Serb and Muslim-Croat camps accuse each other of keeping more prisoners in secret detention. Serbs and Croats have also acknowledged keeping prisoners for investigation as suspected war criminals, something Red Cross officials say the Dayton peace agreement allows. — Reuter, Sarajevo.

Indo-Pakistan missile row

THE Pakistani foreign minister, Najmuddin Shaikh, said Pakistan would match India's missile capability if New Delhi continued to develop an advanced version of its Prithvi missile, the state-run media reported yesterday.

India tested a longer-range version of the surface-to-surface short-range missile on Saturday, bringing Pakistan protests. Western experts say the missiles could be fitted with nuclear warheads. Their deployment would heighten tension between India and Pakistan, which have fought three wars.

Meanwhile, United Nations military observers in Kashmir have begun investigating Friday's rocket attack on a Pakistani mosque that left 19 people dead. Pakistan has accused Indian troops of firing two Russian-made rockets into the remote Pakistani town of Forward Khatu. Indian army officials deny the charge. — AP, Islamabad and New Delhi.

France blocks Burundi plans

DESPITE widespread fears that ethnic conflict and a looming civil war could spark genocide in Burundi, a detailed United States plan for international military intervention and a similar United Nations proposal have been blocked by France and other key countries.

As a result, there is no international plan for sending a peace-keeping force if Burundi repeats the events of neighbouring Rwanda two years ago.

US officials said efforts to develop a prevention plan for Burundi had been stymied by disagreements with some European allies about the seriousness of the situation and how to deal with it. Every country approached by Washington to contribute troops to an emergency intervention force — other than Canada and some African countries — responded with "varying degrees of hostility and skepticism", a senior official said.

A senior official of France, which intervened unilaterally in Rwanda, said: "Preventing the resurgence of centuries-old tribal conflicts is not in our power." — Washington Post, Washington.

East Timor rebels killed

SIX rebels have been killed by Indonesian troops in two incidents in East Timor, the official Antara news agency reported yesterday.

Captain Djoko Purwadi, spokesman of the military command in East Timor, was quoted as saying that five of the rebels were shot dead on Friday in clashes with troops near Dilor in the Viqueque regency, south-east of the capital Dili. The sixth rebel was killed in a military operation on Thursday at Atsabe in the Ermera regency, south-west of Dili.

Capt Purwadi said 27 separatist rebels had been captured, or had surrendered, in the past 10 months. — AP, Jakarta.

Black US leader asks for African soil

THE black Muslim firebrand Louis Farrakhan arrived in a hearse for his meeting (above) with President Nelson Mandela yesterday, nursing a romantic attachment to Africa despite flight delays and car breakdowns.

Apparently inspired by such frustrations, during his visit from America, the leader of the Nation of Islam appealed for land in Africa on which Afro-Americans — including a million convicts — could build a "new reality".

"We have asked for territory to be set aside in Africa," he told a press conference. "We were taken from Africa and brought to America and were really never asked if we wanted to be citizens. So if there was no vote taken, we have a right to Africa. This was our motherland."

After the meeting, which passed amicably, Mr Mandela said Mr Farrakhan both said they opposed racism and sexism. — David Berezford, Johannesburg.

Paedophile tourists targeted

IN AN attempt to deter foreign visitors to Sri Lanka who seek sex and sex with children, the government has strengthened penalties for having sex with a minor to between five and 20 years in prison — the sentence given to pimps.

"It's become fairly high on the government's agenda," Peter Dixon, field director for Save the Children UK, said.

Sri Lanka has had a reputation as a paradise for paedophiles — a crime some countries tolerate partly for its hard currency earnings. An estimated 5,000 children, mostly boys, ply the island's beach resorts and tourist spots in search of clients.

In 1994-95, half a dozen foreigners — from Germany, Britain, France, Sweden and Switzerland — were arrested in connection with having sex with minors. None has been sentenced to prison, officials said this week. — Los Angeles Times, Colombo.

The Birmingham Arouser and Nancy Impotency cases take the law into quite new erogenous zones. What is being touched on here is whether promise and expectation — two central elements in the selling and enactment of sex in the modern world — are susceptible to definition and enforcement. Mark Lawson page 9

CIA THE SECRET... T French pro-life...

الله اعلم

09/21/2015

US intelligence was involved in a fierce backstage struggle with its 'reluctant' allies at the height of the conflict, writes Ed Vulliamy

# CIA 'bugged' UN HQ in Bosnia war



**T**HE American secret services — notably the CIA — embarked on their first publicly-sanctioned mission in Bosnia this week, to shield Nato soldiers from hostile paramilitaries and help war crimes investigators.

But despite official denials, these agencies, including the CIA's Pentagon cousin the DIA, have been engaged deep within Bosnia's war since its inception.

Among their surveillance targets were top-secret communications between the high command of the United Nations military operation in Sarajevo and the British special forces, the SAS, operating under deep cover. What the Americans discovered was that the UN command was engaged in neutralising Nato air strikes against the Serbs.

US intelligence became enmeshed in the war as the Americans became increasingly enmeshed by what they saw as the thwarting of a robust stand against the Serbs, stemming from the reluctance of the European Union, Britain in particular.

The outcome was a fierce backstage struggle between the Americans and their European and British allies, each pursuing radically diverse agendas.

American frustration was most acute during 1994, a period of cautious authority in the field exercised by General Sir Michael Rose, a former SAS commander.

The tension arose most acutely from the American belief that Nato air strikes should be used to bomb the Serbs to the negotiating table.

The United Nations Protection Force in Bosnia — and especially Gen Rose — was sceptical and feared that air strikes would endanger its soldiers on the ground. The American strategy, and its thwarting by Unprofor and the British, turned the issue of air strikes into a covert backstage confrontation between secret and public.

Now American intelligence sources have revealed what they found when they eavesdropped on communications between Gen Rose's headquarters in Sarajevo and SAS scouts deep inside Serb-held territory, near the besieged Bosnian town of Bihać, during the ferocious Serbian advance in 1994.

**T**HE communication line was established so that the undercover SAS teams, assigned to the UN as forward air controllers, could identify Serb artillery positions and relay the coordinates to headquarters and the pilots of Nato bombers.

But a controversial order came over the air from Gen Rose's command to the SAS: hold off, do not identify the targets, thus neutralising the air strike.

The Nato pilots were shown nothing; their planes came and went, impotent. It was a measured instruction, highly secret, defiant of Nato. But it was not a private one. It was overheard, not by an enemy but by the Americans.

Gen Rose could not be reached for comment on the eavesdropping allegations yesterday at his headquarters at Trenchard Lines, Wiltshire. Sir Michael has argued that aggressive use of air power would have threatened the safety of UN soldiers on the ground and jeopardised Unprofor's humanitarian mission.

The general did order Nato air and ground strikes against the Serbs around Gorazde in 1994, and was then criticised for close air support to defend his SAS men trapped in the enclave, but was overruled by the UN envoy, Yasushi Akashi.

It was fundamental to Gen Rose's debate with the Americans that the UN "cannot be used to alter the military balance in a civil war... a peace-keeping force cannot allow itself to be hijacked by political pressures and become involved in the conflict".

He wrote: "There exist obvious limitations on the use of air power in any confused civil war situation. It is simply not possible to secure safe areas... by the use of air power alone."

The handling of the Bihać crisis was a dramatic illustration of how the Western "allies" were at each other's throats over Bosnia, with the Americans determined to override what they saw as the sabotaging of Nato efforts to bomb the Serbs into a peace deal.

**B**IHAĆ had been under siege for 30 months. A French Unprofor battalion had pulled out and been replaced by one from Bangladesh, by then marooned and virtually unarmed. Humanitarian aid convoys had been throttled since May.

Halfway through November the Serbian assault came. A relentless bombardment included the first reported use of napalm in the war. Serbian planes mocked the "no-fly zone" by cluster-bombing the safe area. Bihać was about to shrivel, or else collapse completely.

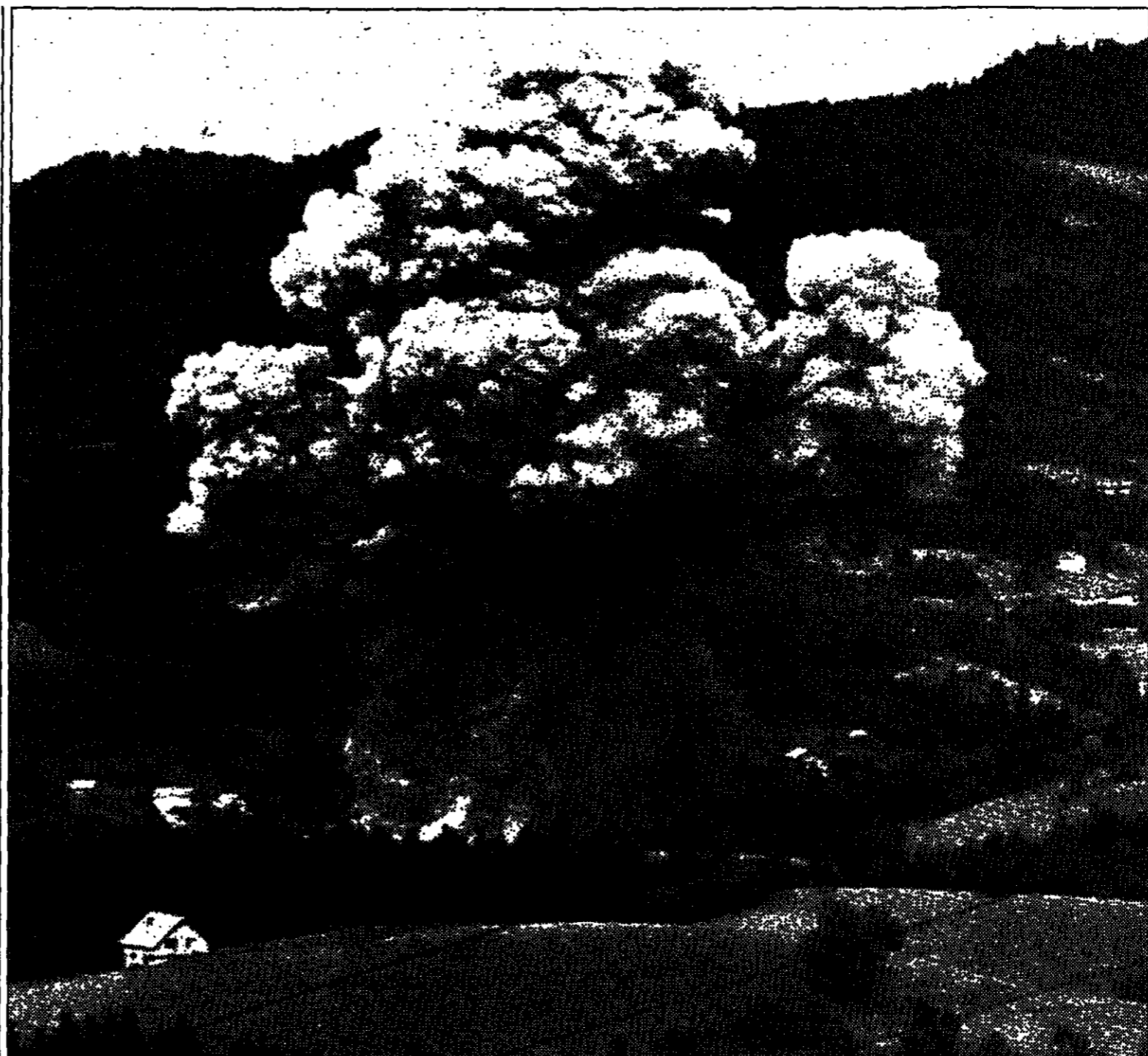
Nato intervened. There was an air strike against a Serb air field in Croatia. The UN command in Zagreb, General Bertrand de Lapresle, insisted on the strike being limited to damaging runways and anti-aircraft missiles and not the planes themselves. But Nato's commander in southern Europe, Admiral Leighton Smith, told the Pentagon: "My hope is that we will not have to go back."

The Western alliance cracked, then the drama began. Gen Rose told the Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, that unless the raids stopped Serbian positions overlooking Bihać would be attacked. Mr Karadzic replied by fax on November 23, telling the UN that the Serbs were now on a hill called Drebnice, which turned out to be inside the safe area.

Gen Rose rushed to Pale, the Bosnian Serb "capital" near Sarajevo, the next day and then on to the Croatian capital, Zagreb. He concluded that the UN should call in air strikes.

There was an American air force observer at UN headquarters in Zagreb and he was worried about reports from US intelligence in the field that the Bosnian Serbs had acquired a fresh arsenal of Russian SAM anti-aircraft missiles, sent via Belgrade.

Gen Rose put the air strike request on hold, and set about negotiating a ceasefire instead. But the Americans were stepping up the pressure. On that Friday, November 25, the



On target... Smoke mushrooms from an ammunition dump in the Bosnian Serb stronghold of Pale last August after the Americans got their way and Nato jets raided targets across Bosnia. Below, bombs are loaded on to US planes at Aviano, Italy, for the biggest assault in alliance history



US ambassador to Sarajevo, Victor Jakovcic, visited Gen Rose calling air strikes, and Mr Amman duly conveyed it to him.



Newspapers on Saturday November 26 were bewildered after "confused reports of Nato air activity over Bihać last night". The state department spokeswoman, Christine Shelly, said the ceasefire brokered by Gen Rose in Bihać was by no means holding, but added that Nato should not be blamed for its failure.

This was what had happened. Gen Rose heeded Kofi Annan's request for close air support from Nato — an intervention within the strict rules stipulating that the pilot had to find a smoking gun before he could strike. The men responsible for locating the smoking gun were the SAS teams, in radio contact with Gen Rose's headquarters.

That night Nato planes took off from the US air force base at Aviano in Italy. This was the showdown between Gen Rose's philosophy of cautious mediation and the Americans' interventionism. For Gen Rose's command,

there was only one way to stop the bombing: they would have to tell the SAS scouts not to identify the target for Nato to bomb. The rules of engagement were clear: no target, no bombs.

## French riot police crush clash of pro-lifers and anti-abortionists

**R**IOT police intervened to stop fighting between supporters and opponents of abortion in Versailles during weekend protests taking place against the background of a political and judicial split over the application of the 1975 law legalising abortion.

The anti-abortionists had gathered in Versailles as leaders of SOS-Petites appeared in a local court against suspended jail sentences imposed for a raid on a clinic last year, one of dozens of commando raids in the last five years. The court deferred judgment.

Supporters of abortion claim that the opposition movement, which enjoys support among French cardinals, has become a focus of extreme rightwing activity led by the National Front.



Noelia Garcia: her image appeals to young recruits

ment is wary of upsetting a sector of its potential electorate, and is siding with the anti-abortion lobby. Last week President Jacques Chirac voiced public support for large families as he presented an award to a mother of 10.

Other courts, however, have passed stiff sentences, notably in Valenciennes, where last week an assistant hospital director, Xavier Doussane, was jailed for nine months. Members of his commando were given four months.

In Versailles both sides complained about the inconsistency of sentencing, which has ranged from the severity of the Valenciennes judgment to a Paris court which passes light sentences on the recommendation of the state advocate-general, who represents the justice ministry.

Ms Garcia was also fined £1,250. The case underlined Ms Garcia's role as the emotional force of a movement which has successfully lobbied for the closure of family planning clinics in northern France.

Given that most of the militants are either middle-aged or retired, Ms Garcia

at 21 has become the most easily recognised spokeswoman of the 15 associations involved in the commando raids, two of which have strong National Front representation.

She has exploited her glamorous image as a model, television actress and student at the Sorbonne to attract young recruits to the anti-abortion movement, and she regularly takes part in radio and television debates on abortion.

In Versailles she recalled that she had been given suspended jail sentences for four separate protests in hospitals which carry out about 180,000 abortions annually.

"It is time people took a responsible attitude to sex," she said. "Men are cowardly and abortions lower the status of women. They have lost the right to be mothers."

### News in brief

#### Russian PM's US mission

The prime minister of Russia, Viktor Chernomyrdin, left Moscow yesterday for the United States with the job of trying to reassure politicians and bankers that Russia is committed to free-market reforms.

#### £3.9m drug haul

Police in Casablanca, Morocco, seized five tonnes of cannabis resin worth £3.9 million hidden in a container of canned sardines bound for Poland, Moroccan media reports said. — Reuters.

#### Poll 'inevitable'

Gianfranco Fini, Italy's most popular and powerful politician, said yesterday that after the military deposed the president, there would be an early general election.

#### 'Murder' payout

Israel has agreed to pay \$266,000 in restitution to the family of a Moroccan waiter who was allegedly killed by

#### Falcon crackdown

Forest rangers in north-western China have detained 925 poachers and rescued 400 falcons, but gangs smuggling the rare birds have grown. Xinhua news agency reported yesterday. Most of the poachers were from a neighbouring country, Xinhua said. — AP.

#### School suicides

Two more Japanese schoolchildren tormented by classmates took their own lives in the past week, adding to the spate of Japanese school suicides which have been plagued by criticism. — Washington Post.

#### Calm in Niger

The streets of Niamey, capital of Niger, were calm yesterday after the military deposed the president. In the second military coup in the region in 10 days, soldiers seized control of the government and ended the country's brief attempt at democracy. — AP.

#### Blaze deaths

A hospital fire killed 13 people and injured 33 in Mecca, Islam's holiest city, the Saudi press agency reported. — AP.

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sex in the modern world —  
and enforcement.

## No going back for Tony Blair

### Labour stakes it all out again

THERE are weeks when the political cards are shuffled and re-dealt and weeks, the great majority of them, when things go on very much as before. Government politicians are behaving as though last week was one of the former and opposition politicians as though they fear that it might have been. However it turns out, there is no doubt they will all be unusually attentive to the crucial next round of opinion polls to see how the Harman affair has changed the balance of party political advantage in the run-up to the general election. Undoubtedly there was fresh energy in the Conservative effort this weekend and there is new apprehension in Labour's, but the net result of last week may not be straightforward. Labour's disadvantage — if such it turns out to be — is not necessarily the Tories' gain.

The Conservative strategy is to pretend that everything is suddenly running strongly in their favour. The behaviour of Tory MPs at Westminster last week, the frenetic weekend energy of the party chairman, and the tone of John Major's Sunday Telegraph interview are all proof of that. But this wave of pill-popping self-confidence is unconvincing (as the private admissions of any Conservative MP will confirm). It also verges at times on the insulting. People who have become disillusioned with the Conservatives are not going to forget their disillusionment just because Labour has been embarrassed over education, important though that is. Tony Blair's remarks about standards in schools last week — that these children have been born and educated under the Conservatives and that the failure is not theirs but the Conservatives' — will ring absolutely true for very many people. The Conservatives have little to cheer about on education, and the fact that their weekend attacks wandered off into many other policy fields suggests that they are aware of it.

Labour, by contrast, have decided to behave as though nothing very much has changed. They insist that the political battleground is largely unaltered, that education is still their issue and that Mr Blair can set out the new visions — see the neighbouring page — in Southwark Cathedral as in Singapore, as though the Harman affair had not intervened. This innocence is almost as hard to credit as the gullible self-deceptions of the Conservatives. What happened last week is that under pressure Labour failed to show that it had a consistent alternative on education which its supporters could believe in and that the public could understand. This threatens the party's wider credibility both because education is important in itself and because of the centrality of which the Blair leadership attaches to education within its wider scheme of things. What appeared to be settled turned out to be work still in progress. Mr Blair's new formulations about individual success and equal opportunity today are much tighter.

The broader context of this argument is set out today on our Arena page by the political commentator John Gray. In his new Demos pamphlet, Dr Gray compellingly explains why the alternative to the failures of Thatcherism is neither a purer form of Thatcherism itself nor a return to traditional social democracy. Not everyone will agree with the communitarian liberal alternative which Dr Gray propounds, nor with all the detailed policy prescriptions which he advocates, but he is right to say that the future belongs to a new way which learns from the failures and successes of both the systems which have preceded it. That is what Mr Blair is at. It is what he has been attempting to set out in his stakeholder speeches since the new year. The effort continues tonight and beyond. The Labour leader is right to stick to his course, even if last week's experiences show it is still unfinished business.

## Adieu to Muroroa

### Now it's time to ban nuclear testing

HAVING exploded what may possibly be the last in its current series of nuclear tests at Muroroa at the weekend, France should now stick to its word and turn its attention to banning them. Outlawing nuclear tests has been on the international agenda for four decades but little progress has been made since Kennedy and Khrushchev failed to do a deal back in 1963. Yet, if the political will is there, the 1996 session of the Conference on Disarmament, now getting down to brass tacks in Geneva, should still be the forum for finally achieving a comprehensive test ban treaty. The signs are certainly more promising than ever before: France and the US, followed by Britain, have declared themselves ready to accept what the scientists call "zero-yield" testing, foregoing the Nevada desert and Pacific atolls for the computer simulation techniques they need to maintain their arsenals. Russia, observing a testing moratorium, is expected to follow suit.

China, with less advanced weapons than other members of the nuclear club, is the next problem. Its continued insistence on "peaceful nuclear explosions," ostensibly for civil engineering purposes, may be tactical. But Beijing's current truculence is worrying and no one will relax in Geneva until it too has come on board. The timing of one of its tests last year — just days after pledging "utmost restraint" during negotiations on the indefinite extension of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty — was deliberate nose-thumbing.

Outside the club some countries are bristling at the anxiety of the nuclear powers to pursue the test ban without making concessions on disarmament. India has linked progress on a global treaty to negotiations this year on eliminating all nuclear weapons within a specified time. Yet as a "threshold state" (along with Pakistan and Israel) that wishes to maintain its capability to manufacture weapons, its position may be more about bargains than principles.

The US and Britain insist there should be no linkage between the treaty and future moves on nuclear disarmament. "Holding one important goal hostage for another is a sure way to fail at both," conference delegates were told last week by John Holm, director of the US Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Incremental progress in such a high-risk area is a sensible way to proceed. But since no one pretends that a test ban treaty will in itself eliminate nuclear weapons, some signal should be given of readiness to move further. Australia is trying to bridge gaps in Geneva while its own Canberra commission of international nuclear experts is sending out the simple but compelling message: disarmament cannot wait for ever.

## How to tell them apart....

Fig 1: Typical double-dealing "DO AS I SAY, NOT AS I DO" sanctimonious hypocrites



Fig 2: Typical straight-talking "DO AS I DO, BECAUSE YOU CAN'T BELIEVE A WORD I SAY" non-sanctimonious hypocrite



## Letters to the Editor

### The agony and the Ecstasy

I AM a dentist and I do know about teeth. When I read an article like Jackie Cowling's (All mouth and no treatment, January 28) I wonder why I take newspapers seriously.

What are the charges outside the NHS? You need a root filling 550 to 650 probably. If you have it removed, you could get away with 200. A crown? About 2200. A filling? 230 to 330.

Good dental treatment will usually give value for money. When did you last have the dishwasher serviced or a small repair on the car? What do you spend in a year on cosmetics, patent medicines and catfood?

Richard Devenald, Watford, Herts WD1 3QF.

Distorted, January 26 meant to reassure parents that drug-taking at raves is not as dangerous as it's cracked up to be? After trying to put our minds at rest about Ecstasy, he suggests that what youngsters are taking is probably not real Ecstasy at all. But most users have no way of knowing what is in the tablets they pay £10 or £15 for. Are we supposed to be comforted by this?

R H Smith, 42 Croft Avenue, Bromborough, Wirral, Merseyside L62 2BR.

WHILE Will Hutton's characterisation of the US as a deeply divided society is valid (Shock that threaten downtown America, January 24), he is wrong to assert this is a new phenomenon. The US always was a deeply divided and unequal society. "Conditions of equality," ascribed by de Tocqueville in 1830, did not hold then and do not now.

Alok Ray, 29 North Street, Bristol BS16 5SW.

JOHN Major wants an election for a Northern Ireland assembly. How about one for Greater London with its larger population? We could call it the Greater London Council. Norman T Shephard, 65/67 Alleya Park, London, SE21 8AS.

## Howard's way with Dr Johnson

I WAS appalled to read your article (Jail shock for Howard, January 27) documenting the proposed closure of Parkhurst's special unit. If Dr Bob Johnson has achieved a 50 per cent reduction in violent assaults whilst relying on 84 per cent less medication etc, it seems unbelievable that he should be rewarded by a short-term government policy based on saving money.

Richard Devenald, Watford, Herts WD1 3QF.

MICHAEL Howard has made prison a still more futile method of dealing with crime by cutting opportunities for prisoners to gain education. By dismantling Dr Johnson's therapeutic programme in Parkhurst, by urging that sentences be increased in length, and now by threatening to close prison farms and gardens — so that inmates can no longer work there.

Anthony Storr, 45 Chalfont Road, Oxford OX2 6TJ.

DR BOB Johnson's statement that "treating human beings with humanity rather than brutality makes them, and us, safer, more secure and, above all, more civilized" is a wonderful metaphor for the manner in which the less advantaged people of this country have been treated in recent years and for the consequent, destructive effects upon our society, which we see all around us.

Dr Bob Johnson is one of many whose careful and thoughtful psycho-therapeutic work with emotionally damaged and traumatised individuals is systematically being undermined by the present government. The violent prisoners with whom he worked were learning to live without recourse to violence but this appears to be of no importance to those who uphold the dogma that only an austere and dehumanising regime will suffice.

Dr Steve Williams, Guisborough, Cleveland TS14 8EP.

## Felling with feeling

IT IS not just the protesters who are getting "thwacked" at Newbury (Letters, January 27). It seems that the Highways Agency, their contractors and Reliance care little for the safety of their own unhappy security guards.

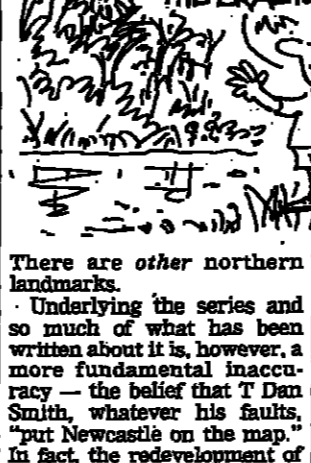
I was at Newbury between January 16 and 19. Because the guards were far too close to the trees, and were always facing away from the falling I saw two incidents when they were thwacked, or nearly thwacked, by falling trees. Forestry guidelines suggest a minimum distance of twice the height of the trees to be felled between the feller and other people, yet in one incident the top of a birch fell across the shoulders of a guard. In another incident a 30cm diameter tree was felled down a very steep embankment, falling among, and scattering, four security guards.

Theo Hopkins, The Cliff and Lower, Chample's Woodlands, Oakford, Tiverton, Devon EX16 9EN.

## Off the map

PETER Preston's Commentary on Our Friends in The North (January 19) rightly claims that it is all too close for comfort. Yet it is obviously far enough away for lots of inaccuracies to have crept in. Green and White — not red — were the Tyneside Labour colours in the 1990s, a tradition which has not entirely disappeared today.

The insult of a shingle beach to represent Whitby Bay was hard to bear as were the infuriating number of day-trip expressions and expletives — put into the mouths of the characters. And why so many clichéd views of the Tyne bridge?



There are other northern landmarks. Underlying the series and so much of what has been written about it is, however, a more fundamental inaccuracy — the belief that T Dan Smith, whatever his faults, "put Newcastle on the map". In fact, the redevelopment of the city centre wiped off the map many of its historic buildings. The aim was not to make Newcastle into a fine European city but to make it "the Brasilia of the North" — enough said.

Joyce Quin, MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.

## Class system

IT AMAZES me how otherwise thoughtful commentators in the columns of the Guardian and in private conversations, who would claim to identify with progressive ideas, continue to refer to young people as "academic" — or not. The alternative is never specified.

Perhaps because I did not grow up in this country and have not suffered the same crippling class assumptions behind the use of this kind of terminology, I find it easier to see it for the asphodelism that it is. My experience of teaching highly-motivated mature students, many of whom were written off as not being "academic" and who now produce first-class work, and my observation of young people from a variety of backgrounds, confirms that there is no such thing as being inherently "academic" or not.

Intellectual and analytical skills are there to be developed, in different ways and at different times, in all young people and people "not so young". They must be developed, and the vast majority of people given the training and skills which can equip them, and the country at large, for the economic and social demands of the late 20th century.

That is the real tragedy of the figures we have seen seeing of British underachievement. We will never come to grips with the low expectations that too many people have of the capacities of the British people unless we stop talking about people being "academic" or not.

Professor of Politics, Kingston University.

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Letters to the Editor may be faxed on 0171 837 4530 or sent by post to 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER, and by e-mail to letters@guardian.co.uk. We may edit letters for clarity and concision.

## A Country Diary

NORFOLK: Although by rights it shouldn't be here, it has been resident at the Titchwell RSPB reserve for over two years. Black-winged stilt is a bird with an almost world-wide range, breeding in the northern hemisphere from Mexico to Mongolia, and around the southern tropics from Peru to Papua New Guinea. One of the few places you wouldn't expect to find it is in northern Europe, and the nearest it usually comes to the UK is the odd outpost in France. No matter where you actually see stilts, however, they always look faintly ridiculous. Their legs are proportionally the longest of any bird in western Eurasia, longer even than a flamingo's. Looking as fragile as reed stems, these limbs leave the bird almost stranded in mid-air, and it often has to bend them to step. Fortunately, it has a comparably long, needle-fine bill to ease the problem. Like nothing else in Norfolk, this creature, more typical of hazy Mediterranean saltpan

or shimmering waterhole in Africa or India, should stick out as a glaring anomaly at Titchwell — a fragment of the tropics which, like Wallace Stevens's Tennessee jar, dramatises by contrast the surrounding monochrome winter landscape.

Curiously, it does nothing of the sort. The bird blends in so perfectly one can easily overlook it as it routinely wades amongst the brackish pools or loafs at the water's edge perched on its red stilts. If seldom leaves this particular spot and only ever travels a couple of kilometres, while it has been alone for the whole 30 months of its residence. Needless to say, it's the longest-staying stilt in the UK, but why, you might ask, does it not fly? The answer may be something to do with the fact that, nine years ago, a pair of stilts successfully reared two young — for only the second time ever in Britain — at a Norfolk reserve within sight of Titchwell itself.

MARK COCKER

## Top people come to the aid of the party

### Endpiece

#### Roy Hattersley

ONE of the strange features of the current education debate is which it is being conducted. It is argued that secondary selection is essential to parental choice, when it ought to be obvious that if schools are allowed to select pupils, parents are not able to choose schools. We are told that standards are more important than structures, although any one who has thought about the subject for 10 seconds must understand that the way in which the system is organised has a direct effect on the results which it produces.

Three years ago, bad teachers only stunted the prospects of the articulate poor. Grammar schools, which only admit children with superior intelligence and supportive parents, are exalted for producing better examination results than those achieved by old secondary modern schools, with "comprehensive" painted on their noticeboards — even though they teach the boys and girls who have been rejected by the grammar schools.

The high watermark of absurdity was reached last week during the conversations which preceded the Tuesday meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party. One Labour MP suggested had no right to express opinions on the way in which our schools are organised. No doubt, according to her, views on top tax rates should be limited to those members whose daddies were millionaires.

The argument sinks to the nadir of rational debate when sentimentality combines with self-interest and stupidity. Last week, the pages of the Independent dripped with tear-

stained stories about the brutalisation of "gentle" children in London comprehensive schools, and tales of managing editors who had achieved their eminence despite, rather than because, of the non-selective schools which they attended.

The resentful journalist certainly proved that the "academically able, the technically able and the able at all kinds of other things". Pity he could not think, or dare not admit, what the "others" things are. When I took "the scholarship", the third category was made up of children who were said to enjoy woodwork and domestic science.

The most welcome of all the unfurled errors appeared in Thursday morning's Times —

the paper which, in its lead article, has been the most consistent and worst-informed advocate of elitist education. The Labour Party, the editorial almost thundered, should "allow parents in every education authority to decide periodically for themselves whether they want comprehensive schools or selection". That demand is welcome to the advocates of comprehensive education because, were it to be conceded, there would not be a state grammar school left in all of Britain. It was, however, an error for the Times to espouse that policy — unless its leader-writers have suddenly been converted to comprehensive education.

Presumably, they were deceived by a recent opinion poll into believing that comprehensive schools are unpopular. In fact in that survey, two of the three age groups which are likely to contain the parents of primary school pupils, voted substantially in favour of non-selective secondary education.

Nobody should be surprised by that. When the choice is presented to them, parents follow the path trodden from

Tory Solihull to Labour Barstow. They do not gamble on their children taking an escape route from second-class education. They simply reject a system that stigmatises most pupils as academic failures and sends them off to schools designed to teach "other things" than formal subjects.

Ford mums and dads are notoriously unrealistic about their offspring's talents. But 51 per cent are not going to take the risk of not being part of the 10 or 15 per cent whose children "pass the scholarship".

Parents of primary school pupils have an absolute right to choose the type of schools in which their children will be educated. And the ballot must be conducted amongst them.

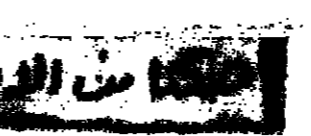
To ask the parents of grammar school pupils what sort of education system they would like to see would be like asking water board chairmen whether or not there should be a windfall tax on the excess profits of privatised utilities.

There is no theory of liberal democracy which allows a favoured minority to insist that society pays for their privileges at the expense of a disadvantaged majority. To allow

grammar school parents to insist of selective education for their children is to give them the power to veto comprehensive education for other people's sons and daughters. We should not be surprised that an editorial written by the chairperson of the Brains Trust accepts those basic truths — only that understanding has come so slowly.

Anyway, however tortuous the route by which the sinner has come to repentance, those of us who believe in non-selective secondary education should rejoice. We are extremists no longer. We can continue our campaign for parental ballots reinforced by the knowledge the Times is on our side.

Last week, Labour's public relations advisers panicked not about the party's apparent inconsistency but about creating an impression of antagonism to success. Let us hope that the Times has calmed their nerves, forward to comprehensive education with the top people's paper! At last, we have a soundtrack that can unite old and New Labour.





Mumbai Diary Suzanne Goldenberg

NOBODY thought it would stick, not the wraiths in scraps of clothing, not the pannycoo tycoons who somehow exist here in the city of infinite possibilities...

Madame Fifi takes the stand

Commentary Mark Lawson

IN THE musical Guys and Dolls, Nathan Detroit advises Miss Adelaide that, if she doesn't believe his protestations of love, she should "find a lawyer and sue me"...

intelligence and seeks the return of the £25 fee plus damages. The case continues and is, as lawyers say, expected to be a long one.

merous attempted suits for contraceptive failure — which is a pity as a full-scale court case would have been an entertaining spectacle.

What we can already hear the magistrate's grave summing-up. "The point at issue in this dispute is whether the phrase 'Hot Fun With Madame Fifi' constitutes a legally-binding contract or a mere commercial inducement."

The Birmingham Arouser and the Nancy Impotency cases result from a newly-sanctioned frankness

with Double Nut Pecan by a hot-lipped partner? Or the court-room battle — featuring detailed forensic evidence involving electrodes and photocopiers of Playmates of the Month — in which a subscriber to a pornographic magazine demands a refunded subscription on the basis that it did nothing for him?

fascinating to imagine closing arguments for the defence in the latter case. "You must ask yourself, members of the jury, whether you would wish to sleep with the plaintiff, if your answer is that you would not — not even in a darkened room, not even having partaken copiously of alcohol and what we have heard described to the court as 'E's' — then you must find for the defendants."

The present tendency for the former lovers of celebrities to publish lurid accounts of their sexual prowess — whether "Top Pop Star Was My Number One" or "Big Star Not So Big In Bed!" — must raise the possibility of pre-coital secrecy agreements, a variation on the prenuptial financial contracts now commonplace among the rich.

Any, the future — with indignant consumers clutching their punctured wallets and expert nutritionists testifying that the condom advertised as raspberry-flavoured in fact included vanilla essence — should at least be amusing.

use to go back to selection but refuse to make do with uniformity. Today we need a system where students forge ahead in areas of strength, breaking down the traditional equation of ages and stages.

It can be done. In Birmingham, bright 11-year-olds are doing GCSEs. In Oswestry, 15-year-olds are taking Open University courses. New technology and a flexible curriculum should make accelerated learning possible for any pupil with talent in a particular subject.

In addition, we need to make special efforts to improve inner-city schools. Labour has already committed itself to year-on-year pressure and support for school improvement and to encourage every school to develop distinctive ethos and specialism.

Nothing is more important than strong leadership from a skilled headteacher. This isn't just about money. We also need special incentives for headteachers with a proven track-record of success to commit themselves to help turn round difficult schools. "Twining" or "mentoring" schemes have started. By next year, we should have school improvement networks to promote best practice. I will have more to say about this and other initiatives tonight.

Strong communities are about what people give as well as what they take. Any attempt to rebuild community for a modern age must assert that personal and social responsibility are not optional extras but core principles.

It means attacking the conditions in which crime breeds, and at the time insisting that serious crimes require punishment. It also means asserting the importance of commitment to strong families, which provide the critical context for children to grow and learn.

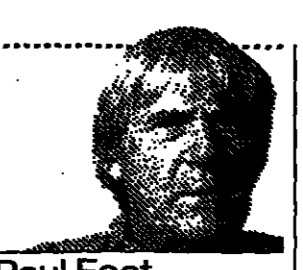
IN ADDITION, I want to see public service encouraged and developed. For example, we have suggested the idea of new "lessons for life" in schools, including practical community service with the elderly or those in need, as well as an era of ungraded, unprogrammed learning for young people, allowing them to see how they can fulfil responsibilities and at the same time fulfil themselves.

There are two futures for Britain. The Tories offer a Britain split into two tiers, with affluent communities turned into private fortresses against the world outside. Labour offers the vision of Britain as One Nation — a belief that to help individuals get on we need to reinvent community for the modern world.

I believe we have reached a critical turning point in post-war politics. For a generation after 1945, state-led collectivism held sway. The Thatcherites capitalised on its limitations, and ushered in an era of unbridled individualism. That is now coming to a close. Today, the search is on to reinvent community for a modern age, true to core-values of fairness, co-operation and responsibility, but applied to the world as it is, not the world as it was.

Tony Blair will address Church and community workers tonight at Southwark Cathedral

Warning — muggers at work



Paul Foot

"WE ALWAYS thought that people who complain about street violence in London are exaggerating, but now I'm not so sure. It clearly isn't safe to walk at night where I live — down Clapton way for example. It seems that if you drop into a cafe there for a drink with friends, there's every chance that as you come out you will be set upon by bully-boys who will hold your neck and kick you in the face until you are dead. I'm not making this up. This is exactly what happened in Clapton just over a year ago. It all came out at an inquest the other day. Naturally, lots of us law-abiding citizens in these parts are worried that it will happen again. What are we supposed to do if we are set upon like this? Call the police? The trouble is that the muggers are the police. While we are being kicked to death, can we perhaps take comfort that the thugs will be brought to justice? Not at all. In the case I mention, the killers have not been prosecuted. They have not even been sacked. They are suspended on full pay from the public purse. And they are sued, as they should be by the victim's family, compensation will be paid once again by you and me. What is the answer? Alert as ever, the Prime Minister has put 5,000 more policemen on the beat. I'm not sure that this will help, but certainly the expression "on the beat" takes on an entirely new significance.

SHIJI LAPITE, the man who was unlawfully killed at Clapton by PCs Paul Wright and Andrew McCullum, had come to this country seeking political asylum from the murderous dictatorship in Nigeria. I do not use words like "murderous dictatorship" lightly. John Major and lots of other leaders of the Commonwealth said equally strong things when people were hanged for protesting against Shell. Not even Michael Howard has any doubt about the nature of the Nigerian regime. So here is a question for him and his immigration service. What has happened to Abdul Ombiya? Mr Ombiya came to this country perfectly legally in 1964. Of the 30-odd years since, he spent 22 in this country, working, paying taxes and contributing to the economy. Two of his children were born here. On October 26, 1995, he was forcibly deported to Nigeria on the grounds that many years ago

WHILE on this subject, I canvass for a candidate in the election for Rector of Glasgow University, who speaks there at luncheon time today. He is Professor Mohammed Al Masari who seeks asylum here, but whom Michael Howard and Anne Widdecombe are deporting to Dominica. Let me explain why. The professor supports free and regular elections to parliament by universal male and female suffrage, freedom of speech and free trade unions. His campaign has annoyed the dictators of Saudi Arabia who tolerate no elections, no dissent and no trade unions. John Major, Malcolm Rifkind, Michael Portillo, Peter Lilley, old uncle Mike Howard and all the others at Widdecombe fair are all creatures of free elections, free speech and so on, but they immediately side with the Saudi tyrants and can't wait to kick Dr Masari out. The Rector of Glasgow University is powerless, but under some ancient law he must attend regular meetings of the University Court. So a vote for Masari is a way of wiping out the purpose of the law. A better reason for voting cannot be devised.

he went back to Nigeria for more than the period he was legally allowed. He was taken by eight immigration officials from Campfield detention centre near Oxford to Gatwick airport. His wife Joyce was not allowed to see him or give him the clothes and money she had packed. Two immigration officers went with him to Lagos and handed him over to the government's security officers there. In the three months since, his family has not heard a word from him. His daughter, Lola, tells me: "He promised he would contact us as soon as he got to Lagos. He had hoped he might get away from the airport, without being noticed, but the British immigration officials made sure that was impossible. We are, all of us, desperately worried about him."

Guardian readers will recall that on December 2 the Nigerian High Commission in London declared in a press statement that Abdul "is not being held by any branch of the Nigerian law enforcement or security services". The statement was embellished with waffle about the "unconscionable tactic of maligning the Nigerian government" etc, etc.

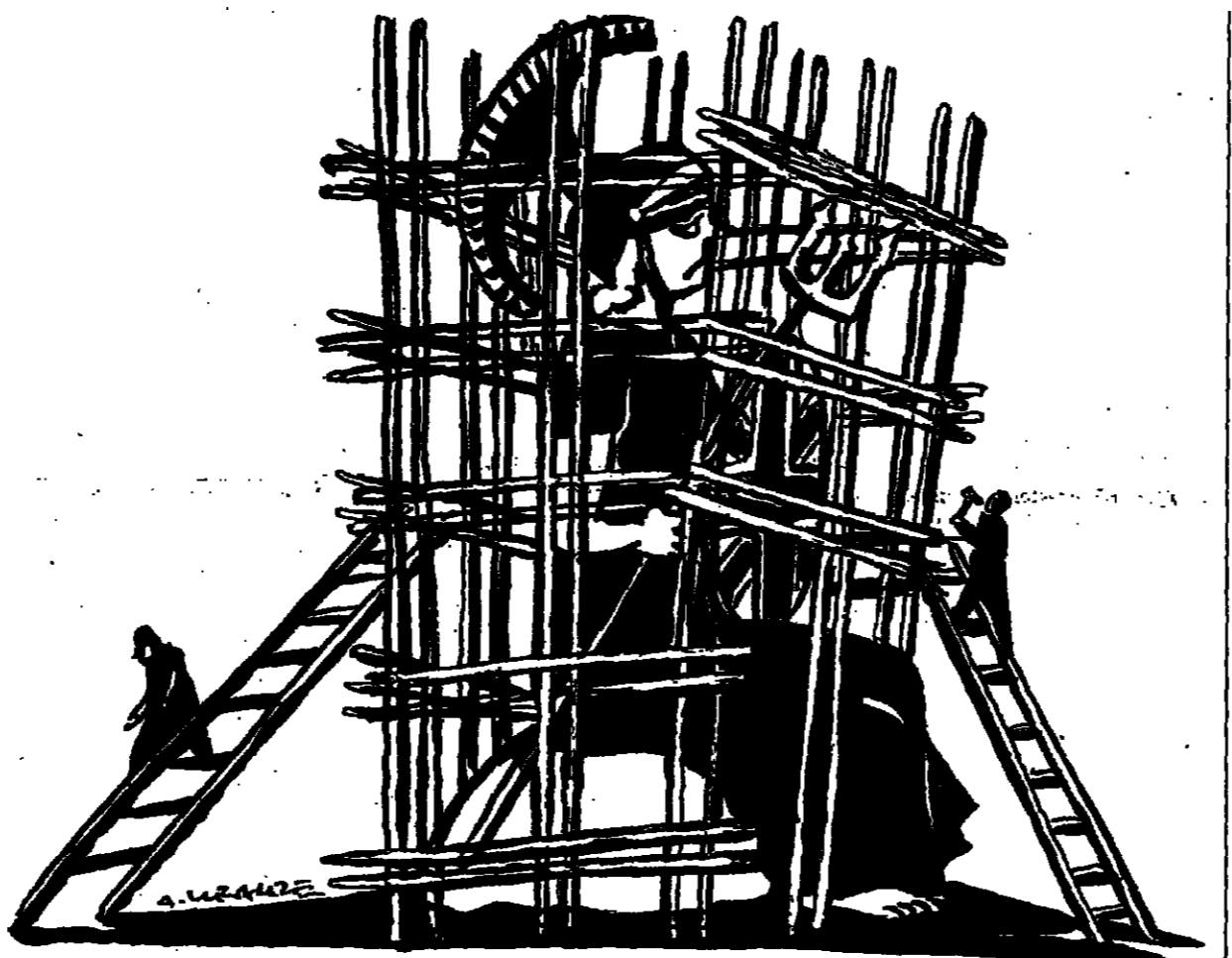
If the Nigerian government means what it says, it could easily prove to his family that Abdul Ombiya is a free man. This would bring great relief to the harassed family, who are worried not just for Abdul but also for his son Ade, 20, who has been in Britain since he was nine, but has also been in the hands of the immigration regulations. Ade is in detention (where he passed his A levels) awaiting deportation to Nigeria.



on Felling with feeling

Diary

ne party



Battle for Britain

Tony Blair believes we have reached the third critical point in post-war politics, and argues that his stakeholder dream can change people's lives

TEN YEARS ago, Faith in The City, the report of the Archbishop of Canterbury's Special Commission on Urban Priority Areas, sounded a warning note about the condition of Britain. It argued that economic and social inequality were becoming more pervasive in our society and that we had a moral responsibility, rich or poor, religious or secular, urban residents or country, to contribute towards the creation of a more just society.

It is clear from the fury of politics within the last few days that we have a choice between debating the condition and future of Britain on the high ground, or having instead a rather nasty, personalised, negative campaign fought in the gutter. I believe we must fight the battle of ideas, because the essential challenges posed by Faith in The City remain unaddressed: do we have the confidence and the ideas as a nation to achieve prosperity with fairness in the next century? Three weeks ago in Singapore, I set out my vision of a stakeholder economy — an idea with modern relevance across traditional political boundaries.

Next week, I will be making the case for political reform — what one might call stakeholder politics. In a speech today I will be talking about Labour's belief in social cohesion — a stake in society — and the need for a war on social exclusion if we are to move forward as a nation. Britain is today more divided and more insecure than when Faith in The City was published. One in five households have no one working, the poorest 10 per cent are 17 per cent worse off in real terms than they were in 1979, and one in three children grow up in poverty. At the top, privilege is more obvious than before. In the privatised utilities, the series of chairmen and chief executives have gone up on average by over 250 per cent since privatisation. Meanwhile, in the middle, sits the anxious class. People insecure about their jobs. Afraid that public services will not be there when they need them. Struggling to pay mortgages and new charges. Prompted to opt for private pensions and now finding that they get very little in return. The Conservatives used to say that to be cruel was to be efficient. In fact, social justice

is a necessity not a luxury. The most meaningful stake anyone can have in society is the ability to earn a living and support a family. So we propose education, employment and community initiatives for the young unemployed that would slash youth unemployment over a parliament. Benefit reforms would provide hope for the one-in-five workless households, trapped on benefit by a system designed for a labour market and family structure that no longer exists. A jobs, education and training programme for single parents would offer help to a group of people currently on a 15-year ticket to reliance on the state.

Next to employment, secure housing is the foundation of personal security. I welcome the Government decision to extend the rough-sleepers' initiative. But they could do much more. The release of the capital receipts held by local authorities would provide jobs and homes that so many people are desperate to live in. Instead of cracking down on rights to housing benefit, we should be attacking the £1 billion-a-year cost of housing-benefit fraud. And why not tackle homelessness at root by phasing out the assisted places scheme. Third, a new partnership with teachers to reward excellence, promote professional development, and raise standards. Fourth, making the most of information technology, by combining free and fair competition with the public interest to cable up all schools to the information superhighway. Fifth, new links with the community: associate teachers drawn to help in the classroom, parents and families working in partnership with teachers. And sixth, broader A levels and upgraded vocational qualifications.

THE traditional "factory" model of education assumes all children proceed at broadly similar speed in every subject. We should re-

HOWEVER, the core economic challenge facing us as a nation is to use the power of all our people and not just an élite. The real lesson of last week does not concern selection in 150 grammar schools, but standards of provision in 25,000 schools up and down the country. It is very clear why the Tories want to focus debate

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Joseph Brodsky

Poet against an empire

JOSEPH Brodsky, who has died aged 55, was as gifted with words and the power of metaphor as any poet among his contemporaries...

He became the heir to the great tradition of modernism in Russian poetry, rooted in the moment early in the century when Andrei Sinavsky believes, this was the finest poetry in the world...

warmly in one of the autobiographical essays in his posthumous collection, Less Than One: "Nobody knew literature and history better than these people, nobody could write in Russian better than they...

He was taken up by Akhmatova on the strength of early poems - very different from hers - circulated in samizdat, and by his early twenties, reading at clandestine poets' gatherings, he had become the darling of a million where the natural Russian passion for poetry was again being pressure-cooked by censorship and repression...

trative, reacted with predictable resentment to Brodsky's far from subdued display of talent and obduracy. There were several nasty preliminary harrassments. In November 1963 he was attacked in the Leningrad press...

By then, however, civil courage among writers and those who cared for literature and freedom had advanced to the point that a full note of the trial was taken by a woman journalist, and soon got out to the West. It included the famous exchange with the uncomprehending or wilful judge that inscribed Brodsky's name, willy nilly, in the roll of post-barristers...

He was no longer crudely persecuted, though when an invitation was sent to read at the Festival of Two Worlds in Spoleto in 1969, the Union of Soviet Writers replied on his behalf. "There is no such poet in Soviet Russia..."



"I am a poet" ... Joseph Brodsky was the anointed heir to Russian modernism and to the bitter tradition of persecuted writers

system, he was released in November 1965, to return to Leningrad, in poor health but for the time being at least, in peace. The years that followed he spent partly learning Polish in order to be able to translate Zbigniew Herbert and Czeslaw Milosz, and English so that he could learn deeply from and translate Donne and Andrew Marvell...

transcending the sounds and structures of any one tongue. As he put it in his acceptance speech when he was made Nobel laureate in 1987, it's not that language is the poet's instrument, but that he is its vessel. If language was something like his god, separation made Mnemosyne Josef Brodsky's muse and consoling mate in his bereavement...

burg essay in Less Than One, the earlier prose collection which may prove to be the book by which he is best remembered by readers without Russian. "Reflected every second by thousands of square feet of running silver amalgam," wrote this son of a sailor-turned-photographer, this wideawake revenant scanning the quays of the Neva...

W L Webb Joseph Brodsky, poet, born Leningrad, May 24, 1940; died January 28, 1996

telescope. With the years, it mooves away from the luminary, grows colder. But the gift of the Word grants a stay of execution and, if not immortality, an afterlife warmed by the spirit's aspiration: ... to God's least creature is given voice for speech, or for song - a sign that it has found a way to bind together, and stretch life's limits, whether an hour or day.

The way in which the Word most signally defeats Time (and other tyrannies, however), is by remembering. "And there was a city," he wrote in the title piece of Less Than One, recalling his route to school along the Neva. "The most beautiful city on the face of the earth. With an immense grey river that hung over its distant bottom like the immense grey sky over that river..."

Harold Brodkey

Literary calculations

HAROLD Brodkey, who has died aged 65, was America's most famous unread writer. He was famous for the quality of his withholding; for almost 30 years he worked on a great American novel...

barely a pass. He had lost his mind. And indeed, after publication, Brodkey seemed wily and discarded. A tall and striking man had become grey and spindly. But Brodkey was also sick. In 1963, the New Yorker (where he had been a staff writer) published his open letter, announcing that he had AIDS, and suggesting, improbably, that he had been infected in the late sixties...

tion than to succeed in imitation. Nevertheless, Brodkey's first collection of stories, First Love And Other Stories, which appeared in 1968, was a dutiful, accomplished, and palpably indebted to J D Salinger. Like Saul Bellow's first two novels, this peaceable book let out no hint of the stylistic revolution that was massing in his gardens. For the next 30 years, Brodkey worked, fitfully, on The Runaway Soul. Brodkey would re-create, and drown again in, those traumas. Brodkey grew up thinking of himself as an orphan, and his striving for originality may be seen as an attempt to be parentless, to be free of literary ancestors...

Brodkey's prose was unlike any other contemporary writer's. Stylistically, it had some of the "time excess" of Romantic lyricism mixed with a distinctively American hospitality towards the sublime. Philosophically, it was outlandishly post-Freudian. Brodkey sought to flood the self in meaning, to reach beyond a selfhood, toward its amateurishness, its infinite dilemmas. He was interested in conveying to the reader a grotesque minuteness. If that involved 30 pages on the exact



Brodkey ... America's Proust

tonalities of his mother's speech, or 30 pages on the bliss and struggle of one act of oral sex - his most famous story, called Innocence - then so be it. No one could accuse Brodkey's writing of falling in imitation.

every man, will never leave American writing, and will always be vulnerable to English pragmatism and Occam's razor. It will always look a little foolish. And Brodkey did look foolish. He became famous not for his writing, but for the flashy gymnastics of his career. He toyed with journalists and critics, played flirtatious games with the literary world's opinion of him. Brodkey ran his career with an eye for the quotable, while denying that he was running anything, or indeed that he had a career. He was both supremely worldly and genuinely intoxicated with literature - and hence supremely unworried. He liked to set up impossible positions. Either I am truly great, or I am a fraud," he said to me when I interviewed him. He was, perhaps, monstrously innocent. He believed himself when he said such things. He was calculating, but all his greatest calculations were directed towards literature.

Jackdaw



Demii diva MOST PEOPLE think that being a diva is about attitude, but when you live and breathe divadom, as I do, you learn that there are no hard-and-fast rules for being a diva, if only because if there were, no diva would lower herself to follow them. In fact, I don't even like to consider myself a diva, a denial which is by itself a sign of divadom, and if you don't agree with me, you're fired. Just kidding. Really, I am a benevolent diva, and know I must be a diva, because I do have some of the indispensable diva travel accessories, like my portable pets (a Yorkie and

a miniature Doberman, each under three pounds) and my giant diamonds. The diamonds are also under three pounds, but I'm working on it. For my birthday, my husband bought me a miniature diamond engagement ring to wear on a chain, and some diamond earrings of a major, major nature, but unfortunately, since I fall into the category of being a diva with a pinhead, they're too much, even for me. And of course, nothing travels as well as part-ownership in a hugely profitable national restaurant chain...

A true diva will do anything for her art. I have even gone so far as to roll around in a semi-cloth state on piles of money and Michael Douglas. And in my next movie, G.I. Jane, my hair gets shaved off on-camera, which should be pretty glamorous, though maybe not as glamorous as standing on a set in a bra and G-string during a night shoot when you have a cold and have to keep two tissues stuffed up your nose so it won't run all over your perfectly defined diva lips. My husband is also a diva,

and the problem with a double-diva marriage is that we've created diva offspring. United in our divadom, we look forward to a morning without being peed on, which I think always adds a touch of class to the day, personally. When I get to the chair for some simultaneous face poking and hair pulling, and occasionally get a leg's worth of body makeup done, which goes pretty quickly, because when you have a job that entails body make-up going up to the crutch, you learn to get it down to at least an hour and a half. The next phase of this glamorous process is the wardrobe fittings, and in the particular case of Striptease, that means the joy of things that go up your butt. After I'm all dry-cleaned and dressed, we move to the final phase, plucking stray hairs out of my legs with tweezers. Perversely, I have come to love this, and am obsessively searching for the perfect tweezers. Unfortunately, so far I haven't found any diamond-studded ones. Still, being a diva isn't all that hard work. You always get a good table at restaurants. You

don't have to walk long distances in uncomfortable shoes, although you do have to walk small, repetitive distances in uncomfortable shoes for movies, and now writer, Demi Moore tells it how it is in American magazine Details.

Village news IT TAKES a village to raise a child. Of course it does. After all, children can be such a burden when there are cattle futures to be traded, worlds to be saved and political campaigns to be won. Few parents, particularly those who have freely chosen that most family-unfriendly of professions, politics, can do it themselves. So indeed it does take a village, preferably one transported from Guatemala or some such place where the natives gladly will provide what Hillary Rodham Clinton so delicately calls "surrogate care" in exchange for a few Yankee dollars off the books. The full title of Mrs Clinton's little book of proverbs, pieties and public

policy ought to have been: It Takes A Village - and Lots of Nifty Government Programs Which Parents Have Managed to Live Without for Centuries.

The warm and fuzzy lectures of the high and mighty have become a tiresome and even offensive spectacle, because there is hardly a more self-centred, self-absorbed, anti-family business than that of tramping far and wide in search of votes, campaign contributions and the adulation that makes it all worthwhile. Asking politicians to instruct us in the art of raising children is something like consulting the US Conference of Catholic Bishops for tips on sexual performance. They mean well, and they may even have something worth while to say, but ultimately they're just guessing...

My FAVOURITE: The Eye-shadow Prism, in any shade. It's a new concept for eye makeup, five shades and two textures all in a lovely compact, and no one had done it before. There's a real pleasure in succeeding with your work, in seeing a new concept become a classic.

MY FAVOURITE creation goes back to 1988. The name... Poison, was so bold. I remember we spent our time swinging between great excitement and complete terror at what we had done. I do admire the fragrance Shocking from Schiaparelli, although it's no longer available. This was a real surrealist creation which inspired so many other fragrances created.

Jackdaw wants your jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk, fax 0171-715 4366. Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Dan Glaister

Sniff sniff MY PERSONAL favourite is our Pureness skin-care line. The idea for this water-based moisturiser began when I was on holiday and sat watching a river flowing through a valley. The flow of pure cleansing water brought to mind the use of "purifying moisture" as a good marketing term, especially for younger skins.

THE PRODUCT of which I am most proud is our Blanc de Chanel... It was created to lighten some of the darker areas of the face and add luminosity to the skin, and can be mixed with a foundation. Admittedly, there's no particular product I wish I had created, but what I wish I could create is a mascara with an automatic brush. It would make it so easy to apply. Now that would be a cosmetic revolution.

Jackdaw wants your jewels. E-mail jackdaw@guardian.co.uk, fax 0171-715 4366. Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Birthdays

Tony Blackburn, disc jockey, 53; Leslie Bricusse, composer, 65; Sacha Distel, singer, 63; Germaine Greer, feminist and writer, 57; Tim Healy, actor and comedian, 44; John Junkin, actor and script-writer, 60; Raymond Keene, chess grandmaster, 47; Margaret Laird, Third Church, 62; Victor Mature, actor, 81; Julie Mellor, equal opportunities director, British Gas, 39; Andy Roberts, cricketer, 45; Keith Ross, actor, 51; Viscount Tonypantry, former Commons Speaker, 67; Brian Trubshaw, former test pilot, 72; Oprah Winfrey, actress, talk show host, producer, 42.

In Memoriam

FLINTOFF, Eddie (Fred) who died suddenly on 28th January 1994. Much loved, much missed and always remembered by all his family. If to place your announcement telephone 0171 611 9980

James Wood Harold Brodkey, writer, born 1930; died January 28, 1996

Skin deep... H&Q

Advertisement for 'Indicators' and 'Tourist rate' with various text and graphics.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page.

# Who's whistling the best tunes now?



Will Hutton

**T**HE two great traditions in economic thought — Keynesian and laissez-faire — have fought themselves to a standstill. The so-called neo-classical counter-revolution that gained ascendancy over the past 20 years has at last run its course but, although the new Keynesians have arrested its intellectual advance, they have yet to turn their advantage into winning the policy debate. These are in-between times.

Behind these claims — highly congenial to Conservatives everywhere — lay some fancy new economic theory. Discretionary macroeconomic policy of the type Keynes favoured was necessarily self-defeating, argued University of Chicago professors Milton Friedman and Robert Lucas over the 1970s. If governments tried to offset the effect of a recession or boom, then, paradoxically, the impact would be to make the next swing in the economic cycle more, not less, unstable. Stagflation arose because of government attempts at economic management, along with high taxes and union power.

Prof Lucas's theory of rational expectations argued, in essence, that, as long as markets work freely, economic agents never make other than short-term mistakes in understanding what is going on around them.

A recession, for example, is caused not by deep-set market failure but by the short-run phenomenon that firms and workers do not drop their prices quickly enough to price themselves back into activity. They can't be sure in the initial stages of the downturn whether they need to lower their prices, but once they realise they face a recession they soon realise what they have to do, and the economy self-regulates itself back to normal. The best economic policy in response is patience.

## Increased speed on M4 causes some to fear inflationary pile-up

### Briefing

Richard Thomas

**Q**UICKLY, virtually unopposed, monetarism's corpse finally stopped twitching this month. Chancellor Kenneth Clarke delivered his second quarter-point cut in interest rates in five weeks, just days before figures were released showing the money supply growing at a double-digit annual rate for the first time in more than four years.

ally be stoked up, prices will rise. Period.

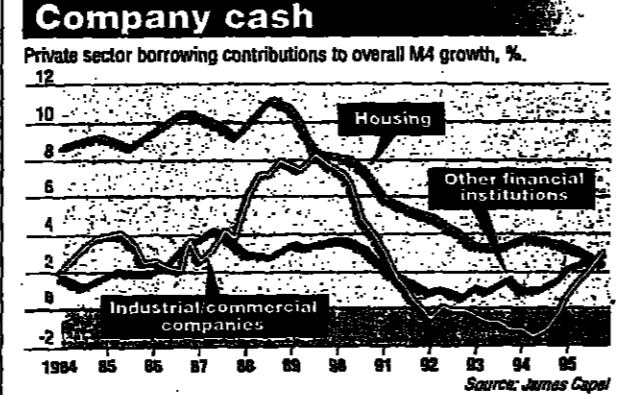
Mr Clarke and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, were worried about M4 last July, when it was growing at an annual rate of 8.7 per cent, well inside the Treasury's 9.9 per cent monitoring range. Now, with M4 growth at 10 per cent, they must be really worried and even thinking about putting base rates up again.

money on the corporate side. In contrast to the housing-related demand of the 1980s. Firms have borrowed on a big scale to fund Glaxo/Wellcome-style takeovers — Mr Cole has identified 241 billion worth of mergers and acquisitions in 1995.

Although takeovers drive up asset prices — and by extension the wealth of the owners of those assets — he argues that little will leak into extra spending. This is because the bulk of personal wealth is held in the form of "contracted" savings, mostly pension and insurance funds.

prices causes a two-point rise in retail price inflation.

Mr Cole estimates that a 10 per cent increase in equity prices results in an inflation rate only 0.2 of a point higher four years later. By contrast, a 10 per cent jump in house



Or, more likely, not. In part this is because M4's current behaviour may not presage higher inflation. Adam Cole, an economist at James Capel, argues that the details of the M4 pick-up militate against price rises. As his graph shows, the real driving force behind recent broad money growth has been demand for

## A woman's place is now in front line of empirical observation

### Debate

Jane Humphries and Shirley Dex

**I**N AN article in the Guardian last November, Anna Palmer argued that economics, as a discipline, is male-dominated in that its practitioners are mainly men, and as a subject is sexist and gender-blind.

All too often the work of mainstream economists seems to rationalise and reinforce traditional gender stereotypes. Feminists have traced their dissatisfaction to economists' failure to understand the nature of constraints which women face and to economists' concept of rationality.

These are deeper problems than the under-representation of women or the neglect of empirical issues. For, if feminist economists challenge economists' ways of approaching problems, the methodological definition of economics turns viciously upon them; if feminists do not do economics like the mainstream guys, then they are not doing economics at all.

While it would be far-fetched to see the changes within the discipline as the result of feminist criticisms, recognising that rationality and markets are imperfect has implications for the analysis of the family and women in the labour market which feminists cannot ignore.

### Indicators

**TODAY** — UK: Bank mortgage lending (Dec). JP's industrial production (Dec). **TOMORROW** — US: FOMC meeting. US: Retail sales (Dec). **WEDNESDAY** — US: Chicago NAPM (Jan). UK: Minc of 19th December Chancellor/Governor meeting published. UK: Economic trends (Dec).

### THURSDAY

US: Bundesbank council meeting. UK: Purchasing managers index (Jan). UK: consumer credit (Dec). UK: Visible trade (Nov). UK: Mortgage lending (Dec). **FRIDAY** — UK: Official reserves. US: Unemployment rate (Dec). US: Non farm payrolls (Jan). Source: NatWest Markets

### Tourist rates — bank sells

Australia 1.98	France 7.46	Italy 2.880	Singapore 2.10
Austria 15.15	Germany 2.185	Malta 0.54	S Africa 5.34
Belgium 44.60	Greece 386.00	Netherlands 2.45	Spain 184.00
Canada 2.0150	H Kong 11.45	N Zealand 2.23	Sweden 10.38
Cyprus 0.7025	India 54.84	Norway 8.60	Switzerland 1.74
Denmark 8.45	Ireland 0.86	Portugal 227.00	Turkey 88.558
Finland 6.84	Israel 4.74	S Arabia 5.57	USA 1.4700

Supplied by NatWest Bank (excluding Indian rupee and Israeli sheqel) as at close of business on Friday

### If at first you don't accede, we think you'd better think it out again

#### Worm's eye

Dan Atkinson

**T**HE Marcus Nelson Murders, the 1973 film that introduced the detective Kojak, ranged him against an intellectually corrupt prosecutor so determined to convict a black youth that he effectively put the defendant on trial twice.

well acquitted. In legal circles, that tactic is known as abuse of process, but the brass do not see it like that. It is genuine in its quest for corrective in economic policy, all the way up from an individual fraud case to pan-European monetarism.

African democracy: one man, one vote, once considered the first Guinness trial, a hearing in which the "correct" verdict was obtained. Only last year, the Court of Appeal turned away the defendants even though, in order to do so, the court had to contradict its earlier ruling that judges should not substitute themselves for jurors.

Needless to say, whereas incorrect decisions are temporary, correct ones are permanent; they represent the Hegelian "absolute moment", after which there is no going back. It is reminiscent of the old definition of

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Tennis

David Irvine in Melbourne sees Boris Becker and Monica Seles recapture the Australian Open singles titles in the style of true champions

# Calm Becker collects again

**B**ORIS BECKER has invariably achieved his most satisfying and memorable deeds after surviving crises in the early rounds of Grand Slam tournaments. It is almost as if he needs his game to be tempered in the fires of controversy and danger.

So it was again here at Flinders Park yesterday when the German, who had risen phoenix-like from the ashes three times, seized back the Australian Open men's title he had suspected was for ever more beyond his reach.

It's five years since the last time I spoke of you. And to tell you the truth, he told an admiring 14,000 crowd after beating Michael Chang 6-2, 6-4, 2-6, 6-2. "I didn't think I had a Grand Slam left in me." And Becker, now 28, left no one in doubt that his seventh major title meant as much as the first he won as a 17-year-old at Wimbledon.

helpless marionette, it was hard to believe Becker had trailed by two sets to one against the British No. 1 Greg Rusedski in the first round, by two sets to Thomas Johansson in the second, and by a set and a break to Brett Steven in the fourth.

Maybe, having heard of Becker's early trials, Chang was lured into believing the German would start slowly against him. He could not have been more wrong. Becker came out firing and inside 12 minutes Chang was trailing 0-4 with only eight points to his name.

"I'm not going to relax. I believe I can win a couple more big ones"

fight for the third. And in the third game his chance came. A double fault by the American, after a mobile phone had pierced the silence as he prepared to serve, offered a tiny opening and an overrule by the umpire after a Chang forshand had been called good at 30-30, unsettled the fifth seed further. Needing one point for a 2-1 lead, Becker lashed back a return which Chang netted.

Thereafter the Becker hand-wagon was back on track. Chang was fortunate to hold from 0-40 for 2-3, but fell behind 2-5 when Becker produced a cross-court forshand which Chang volleyed into the net. Three minutes later it was all over.

"I gave my best. Boris was just better than I was," said a disappointed Chang. Asked if he would ever add to the one Grand Slam title he collected in Paris in 1989, the American said he was still optimistic. "Sometimes people forget that I'm still only 23. I feel like my best tennis is ahead of me. I'm hopeful that opportunities will come again and that next time things will go my way."



Time to boom again... Becker powers to victory over Chang PHOTOGRAPH: ROSS SETFORD

# Seles focus on Wimbledon

**W**HEN Monica Seles, the New Australian champion, arrives at Wimbledon in late June to mount her challenge for the one major championship she has yet to claim, she will probably not have played competitively on grass for four years.

Her last match there was the 1992 final against Steffi Graf which she lost 6-2, 6-1. But that experience will not deter her.

Seles reached the US Open final last September after a 28-month absence from the game and one preparatory tournament, and here at Flinders Park on Saturday she defeated the German Anke Huber 6-4, 6-1 for her fourth Australian crown after only the 23rd match of her comeback.

reduced by much. But her tennis is, if anything, more phenomenal than ever. Huber, who gave it every thing, managed one terrific set but simply ran out of steam as Seles returned with interest everything thrown at her.

Yet the fact that both Huber and Chanda Rubin gave the No. 1 seed such a testing time is a heartening development for the women's tour after the criticism that its "bland, unimaginative and uncompetitive matches" (those are the main charges) have taken recently.

Over the next few months it will be no surprise if players such as Kimiko Date, Jana Novotna, Gabriela Sabatini, Mary Joe Fernandez and Maggie MacLennan are passed by younger aspirants such as Rubin, Huber, Iva Majoli, Martina Hingis and Lindsay Davenport.

Hockey

## Britain draw boggy sides

Patrick Rowley in Barcelona

**G**REAT BRITAIN have landed in the same group as their boggy sides Australia and Netherlands for the Olympics in Atlanta next July. This is their lot after all the effort of getting there over the past 10 days in the Olympic Qualifying Tournament here.

read credibility and prompted Canada, who later beat Belarus 7-1 but were denied qualification, to call for an inquiry.

tournament to capitalise on their chances. It was the same story yesterday when they beat Belgium 2-0 to ensure third place in the final rankings. Both goals were scored by Calum Giles, the corner specialist, to take his tally to eight.

Golf

## Woosnam back in the swing

Our Correspondent in Singapore

**I**AN WOOSNAM produced two dramatic 25ft putts which in turn forced a play-off and then won the Johnnie Walker Classic here yesterday.

and I was thinking that if my back was going to be like that for the rest of my life I didn't want to play." He then saw a television programme which compared his swing with that which helped him win the Masters in 1991. "I couldn't swing properly because my back was so stiff, but that programme helped me to see what I was doing. I made an adjustment in my stance this week and got my rhythm and power back."

Athletics

## Gardener's cage-rattler

Stephen Dorley

**E**VERYBODY in the National Indoor Arena realised they had seen something special when Jason Gardener blurred across the blue carpet track to win the 60 metres in a remarkable 6.55sec during Saturday's international against Russia.

showing much promise indoors. That said, his coach Dave Lease believes that the 20-year-old is something very special indeed.

as Gardener admitted he had "tried a little too hard" last year. "Obviously it is a problem in Olympic year," said Arnold. "If you are looking to peak in mid-March then you cannot really re-prepare for June. Some athletes face a big decision, and you have to advise them to tread warily."

## Reid saves day as England win shoot-out

**E**NGLAND'S women inflicted Germany's first defeat in a European Indoor Championship final when they won a dramatic penalty shoot-out 4-3 after the sides were locked at 2-2 at full time in Glasgow yesterday.

seven-times champions with excellent saves. Jackie Crook, the captain Lynn Bollington, Mandy Nicholls and Sue Chandler all scored from the spot for England.

regained the lead in the second half. Earlier, Scotland missed out on a medal as they lost 4-1 to Spain in the third-place play-off. Spain, who included six of their gold medal winning side from the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, were worthy winners, with only Ellen Murray on the scoresheet for the hosts.

## Gebrselassie defies the bends

**E**THIOPIA'S Halle Gebrselassie set a 5,000 metres world best on his indoor debut on Saturday, his time of 13min 10.98sec chopping almost 10sec off the mark set by Tanzania's Soleman Nyambui in New York in 1981.

Gebrselassie said after the run in Sindelfingen, Germany. In Perth, Linford Christie won his second 100m in three days in a wind-assisted 10.0sec. "I'm still in heavy training so to run 10sec at this time of year is pretty good," he said. Colin Jackson took the 110m hurdles with a fast time of 13.14.

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Vintage is toast

City deal

Southwell all

Rugby League Challenge Cup fourth round: Salford 35, Featherstone Rvrs 12

Vintage Hampson is toast of Reds

Paul Fitzpatrick S ALFORD do not have underground heating and called on a posse of volunteers to get their pitch fit to play yesterday. In one day they beat not only the freeze but Featherstone Rovers as well.

18-12 early in the second half and at that stage Salford were far from safe. But then, crucially, an alert interception by Steve Hampson prevented an almost certain Rovers try and from that point everything went Salford's way.

Salford led 12-6 at half-time with tries from their Western Samoa forward Savello and their RWI hooker Edwards, both the products of avoidable errors first by Rombo and then by Mackie, who made a wretched attempt to pick up the loose ball.



Eccles in snow... Salford's aptly named prop ploughs through Rovers' defence WICKY MATHERS

No sweat for Edwards

SHAUN EDWARDS, almost inevitably, was Man of the Match at Centre Park yesterday after only scrapping into his 43rd successive Challenge Cup victory because his high-tackle ball was lifted, writes Chris Curtain.

The season one mid-table place beneath Friday's fall-guys York, won many admirers with a spirited display. They turned around 32-12 down but, as usual when part-timers try to go the whole 80 minutes with full-timers, were beaten pointless in the second half.

and setting the elite Eagles on the road to a 35-14 win that had looked remote in a fixture half in which the Featherstone strugglers levelled from 10-0 down.

Racing City deal makes Pipe smile

Chris Hawkins MARTIN PIPE may not have the star performers of previous years in his Somerset yard, but with 102 successes so far he has trained more than twice as many winners as anyone else this season.

Pipe commented: "Obviously I'm delighted. All my owners will benefit as Cathedral City's involvement will safeguard their VAT concessions which hinge on sponsorship."

Trophy (Europe's richest handicap hurdle) at Newbury first. Another Champion long-shot is the Charlie Brooks-trained Padre Mio, currently wintering in the warmer climates of Pisa in Italy.

Southwell all-weather Flat with form guide

Table with columns for race number, race name, and a list of horses with their jockeys and trainers. Includes races like 1.30 Maiden, 2.00 Maiden, 2.30 Maiden, 3.00 Maiden, 3.30 Maiden, 4.00 Maiden, 4.30 Maiden, 5.00 Maiden, 5.30 Maiden, 6.00 Maiden, 6.30 Maiden, 7.00 Maiden, 7.30 Maiden, 8.00 Maiden, 8.30 Maiden, 9.00 Maiden, 9.30 Maiden.

Ayr runners and riders

Table with columns for race number, race name, and a list of horses with their jockeys and trainers. Includes races like 1.10 Shamrock's Way, 1.40 Ove Best, 2.10 Calves Cloud, 2.40 Celtic Ghost, 3.10 Stormy Coral, 3.40 Savvy, 4.10 About Of Fancies.

Plumpton card

Table with columns for race number, race name, and a list of horses with their jockeys and trainers. Includes races like 1.30 Maiden To Rise, 1.50 Have An Ace, 2.30 Scout Of Battle, 2.50 Zamboni Spirit, 3.50 Ground Nut, 4.50 Dumper Baby.

Sport in brief

New Zealander in World Cup triumph

THE Austrian-born Claudia Riegler gave New Zealand only their second victory in World Cup skiing history when she upset the favourites to win a women's slalom at Serre-Chevalier in France yesterday. The 19-year-old from Salzburg, whose mother was a New Zealander, produced a two-leg time of 2:31.27sec on the Luc Alphand piste to emulate Anne-Lise Coberger, who won a slalom in Hinterstoder in 1992.

Akinwande earns his stripes

BRITAIN'S Henry Akinwande clinched a comfortable victory over the American Brian Sargent in a heavy weight fight in Don King's 'Prestige in the Super Bowl' promotion in Phoenix, Arizona. The Londoner, who now has 28 wins in 29 fights, twice knocked down Sargent, before the fight was stopped after only 2min 47sec of the first of 10 scheduled rounds.

Hunter deposits Bond

PAUL HUNTER, the 17-year-old English junior snooker champion from Leeds, has clearly emerged as rookie of the year, writes Chris Curtain. After his 9-3 defeat of the world No. 8 Alan McManis in the Royal Liver UK Championship in November, Hunter saw Nigel Bond, last spring's losing world finalist, 5-1 at the Newport Centre to reach the last 32 of the Royal Welsh Open.

Slatter strikes gold

HELEN SLATTER collected two medals on the second day of the World Cup swimming meet in Espoo, Finland yesterday. The British won the 200 metres butterfly in 2min 14.78sec and was third behind Edith Overton of Australia and Hanna Cerus of the Czech Republic in the 400m individual medley. Sarah Price collected bronze with 1:04.29 in the 100m backstroke, won by New Zealand's Anna Sincic.

Sweeney relishes challenge

BRITAIN'S Chris Sweeney moved up to seventh in the IAAF World Cross Country Challenge standings after the fourth race of the series in San Sebastian, Spain yesterday. He finished 16th in the 10,000-metre race in 30min 53sec, well adrift of the race winner and series leader James Karuki of Kenya, who ran 28:39.

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**SOCER: FA CUP FOURTH ROUND**

Tottenham Hotspur 1, Wolves 1

**Spurs fazed by the maze**

Martin Thorpe

FORGET the romance of the Cup. This was a meeting of minds rather than hearts. Gerry Francis and Mark McGhee both inhabit the cerebral end of the managerial scale and, as technicians, are suited to the art of football on Saturday with a cold logic that did little to warm a freezing afternoon. McGhee's master plan detailed two of his three central defenders, Richards and Young, to man-mark Armstrong and Sherwin while a three-man midfield shield of Atkins, Osborn and Ferguson sat just in front of the five-man defence with orders to disrupt Spurs' forward pattern. Faced with such deeply mined defences, Spurs deserve sympathy for their inability to break them down, despite an abundance of possession before half-time and a monopoly after it. Yet the feeling persisted that they should have done better. Francis's playing strategy does not promise many goals at the best of times. In 12 home league games this season Spurs have found the net only 17 times, the second-worst record of the top nine teams in the Premiership. But faced with McGhee's old-guard wall they seemed particularly flummoxed. Having spent months mastering the manager's system of pressing for possession, the team have obviously not got round to learning what to do with the time left on their hands when possession is handed to them on a plate by a side happy merely to defend. "My players tried to keep the ball and pull Wolves out, but unfortunately, they weren't coming out," said Francis. "What we should have done was needed Darren Anderton's class. It will be in the next few months. Obviously Francis had

known what to expect from McGhee, for he dropped Rosenthal for Wilson to even up the central-midfield contest. But matching Wolves was one thing, overcoming them another. The visitors rode their luck with some fine saves from Stowell, a brilliant last-ditch tackle from Rankine to deny Caskey and the suspicion of a penalty when Thompson brought down Fox. But Wolves, for sheer stubbornness and playing to orders, deserved their draw. In the circumstances it was not surprising that both goals came from errors. Spurs went ahead on 13 minutes when Thompson passed in front of his defence but instead of finding Young found Wilson, who did well in scoring his first Spurs goal. The equaliser came 16 minutes later when Austin, instead of running away with the ball, opted to find Walker, underhit the back-pass and Goodman's determined lunge pushed the ball past the goalkeeper's legs. It is easy to understand why McGhee adopted the tactics he did; he is a new manager in a demanding job with an impression to make and a Premiership side to stall. "Beforehand, we were only prepared to say we would be difficult to beat, not that we would come and win," he unashamedly admitted afterwards. Just so long as it does not become a habit. Omnisciently, though, McGhee said that Wolves would play no differently in the replay. The question is, will Spurs? Their away form is superb but they need more variation. Much of what there is comes from Fox, playing so well that Francis is tipping him for an England call-up. But the side's destiny could yet hinge on a man returning from injury in the reserves. If ever have done the needed Darren Anderton's class, it will be in the next few months.

**SCORES:** Tottenham Hotspur 1, Wolves 1 (13min). Wolverhampton Wanderers 0, Manchester United 0 (15min). Tottenham Hotspur 1, Aston Villa 1 (13min). Tottenham Hotspur 1, Reading 0 (15min). Tottenham Hotspur 1, Reading 0 (15min). Tottenham Hotspur 1, Reading 0 (15min). Tottenham Hotspur 1, Reading 0 (15min).

Everton 2, Port Vale 2

**Holdings stay on farce track**

Ian Ross

EVERTON'S defence of the FA Cup is coming to resemble one of those predictable Whitehall farces of the late Sixties, with the familiar hero-in-a-spot-of-both plot. In the end our man gets the girl and recovers the missing secret documents despite displaying an alarming propensity for losing his trousers. Which brings us back to Everton, masters of the anticlimax and a team who often struggle to shape their own destiny even when invited to do so. Thank heavens for Joe Royle, in a sport bedevilled by irritating managers whose primary concern seems to be to convince all and sundry that black is white and poodle is good, he continues to embrace harsh realities. Many of his contemporaries would have made much of the fact that Ian Bogle's speculative drive from distance deep into injury time, when Port Vale were trailing 2-1, would have been a near miss rather than audacious equaliser but for a deflection off John Ebbrell. Fortunately, maybe, deserved, most certainly. "If we had won, it really would have been very hard on them," said Royle, with a relieved smile afterwards. "I'll say what I said after we had drawn here against Stockport County in the previous round: I'm just pleased to be still in the competition. "I couldn't deny Port Vale's right to a replay. They deserved their draw and that's for sure. It was a strange afternoon for us; we may actually have played worse than we did against Stockport."

Royle has been Everton manager for only 15 months. In that time the FA Cup and Charity Shield have been won, he has moved the club off

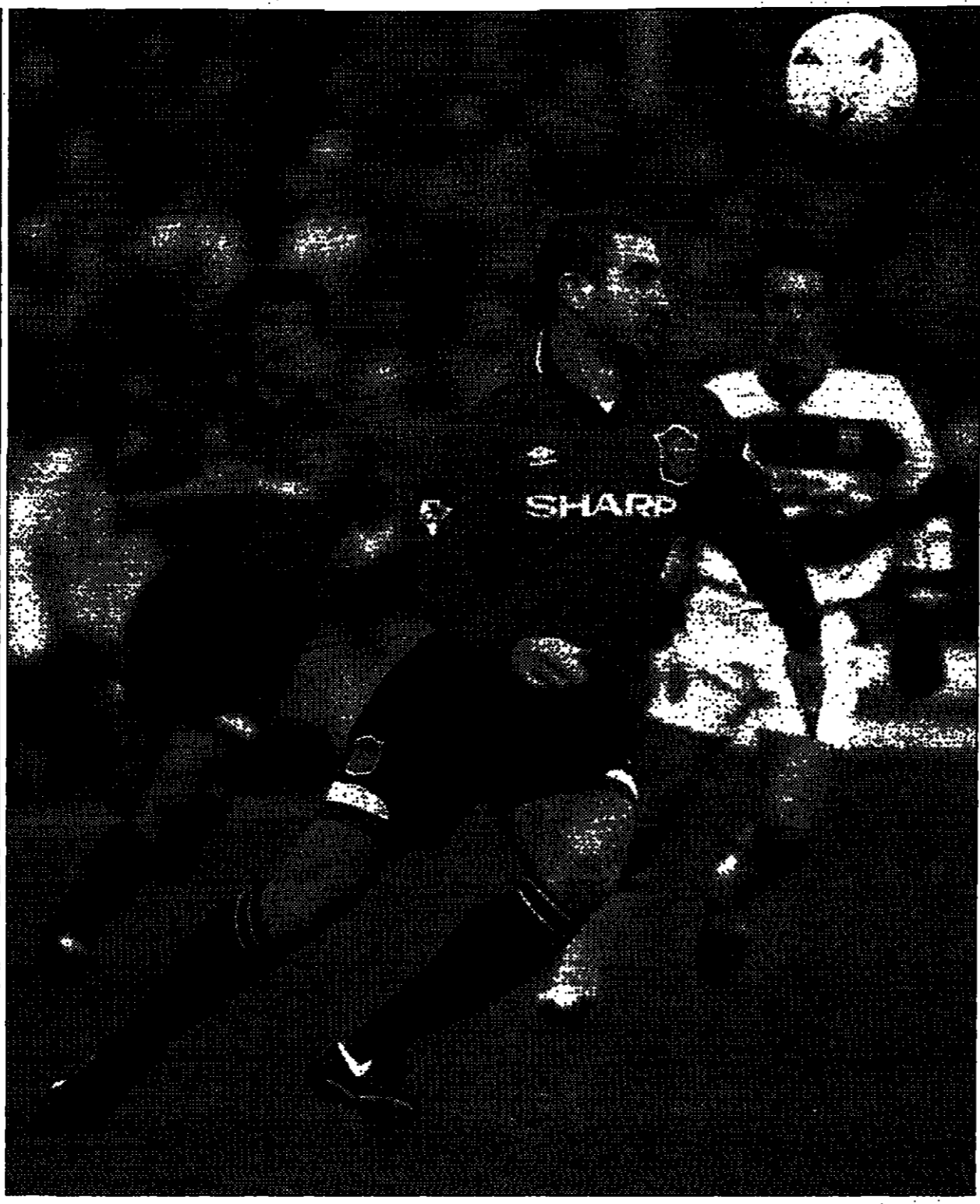
shifting sands on to solid ground in the Premiership, and he has used his chairman's millions to lure players of pedigree to Goodison Park. There is still much work to be done, though, and wily campaigners that he is, he will use this poor performance to root out any complacency in his team. Royle's honesty and John Rudge's joy apart — "I knew that alternative to get something out of it, but it didn't look as though we were going to do" said Port Vale's manager — the afternoon's abiding memory was of neither the split nor Everton's ineptitude. No, it was Martin Foyle's astonishing miss in the first half when he spooned the ball high and wide from no more than three feet. Had he been on target it would have given Vale the lead, but instead they found themselves trailing at the interval to Daniel Amokachi's untidy goal. Foyle then atoned for his error with a fine, stooping header from Tony Taylor's outside-of-the-foot cross to level the score. It would have been a scandal had Duncan Ferguson's 88th-minute goal, tapped in by Vale's goalkeeper Paul Mussenwhite spilled a cross, won the tie for Everton. But Bogle's right foot and Ebbrell's shoulder ensured that justice was done. Nevertheless, as Stockport will testify, the gods are smiling on Everton. It is inconceivable that they will play as poorly a second time in the replay at Vale Park on Wednesday week and, if they can keep their trousers on, it may just be their year again.

**SCORES:** Everton 2, Amokachi (40min), Ferguson (88). Port Vale 2, Foyle (80), Bogle (80). Southampton 1, Northampton 1. Notts County 1, Mansfield 1. Luton 1, Hereford 1. Exeter City 1, Yeovil 1. Gillingham 1, Swindon 1. Leyton Orient 1, Grimsby 1. Millwall 1, Portsmouth 1. Reading 0, Tottenham Hotspur 1. Blackpool 1, Oldham 1. Rochdale 1, Bradford City 1. Wrexham 1, Crewe 1. Tranmere Rovers 1, Southport 1. Hartlepool 1, Scunthorpe 1. Middlesbrough 1, Walsley 1. Barnsley 1, Gillingham 1. Blackpool 1, Oldham 1. Rochdale 1, Bradford City 1. Wrexham 1, Crewe 1. Tranmere Rovers 1, Southport 1. Hartlepool 1, Scunthorpe 1. Middlesbrough 1, Walsley 1. Barnsley 1, Gillingham 1.

**Hodde in confident mood**

GLENN HODDE is confident that his Chelsea team can repeat their recent Premiership victory over Queens Park Rangers when they return to Loftus Road in the FA Cup tonight. Although Chelsea's manager has his captain Dennis Wise and Mark Hughes ruled out by suspension, he says he can call on deputies

such as Gavin Peacock and Paul Furlong "with a lot of confidence". Hodde, who has just taken his squad on a short break to Spain, said: "People can no longer say we are a one, two or even three-man team." Rangers go into the tie on the back of five successive league defeats.



Splendid isolation... Cantona contemplates his next move during United's win at Elm Park. PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JENKINS

Reading 0, Manchester United 3

**White tinted by dash of red**

**Commentary**

David Lacey

THOSE scanning the icy wastes of the weekend's football programme for historical precedents will be surprised to note that when the FA Cup was severely disrupted in 1983 the trophy was eventually won by Manchester United. Others, more intent on debunking history, may feel entitled to point out that in the season which has seen the fewest posternments since the second world war, 1947-48, the Cup was won by... guess who? Either way Old Trafford has now reached a point roughly similar to that at which Ron Atkinson went out and Alex Ferguson came in. Once more the Cup represents the only tangible hope for which are fading fast. Under Ferguson Manchester United may have won two league titles, not to mention the Double, but it is a common law of football that the more a manager wins the more he is expected to win. A third FA Cup success for Ferguson would be a considerable feat in a season of transition, but for a club like United the Cup Wingers' Cup will never be an adequate substitute for the Champions League. As a builder of confidence and character, however, the FA Cup is invaluable, and should United make their third successive appearance in the final this season Ferguson will regard it as an important staging post in the inevitable process of turning the team around. Last August, with Cantona suspended and

ince and Hughes sold on, few would have given much for United's chances of winning something. Of course, the FA Cup could still prove United's Calvary to terms with the motor car. Reading FC are about to park on the hard shoulder. As a footballing team they had snapped up a rebounding thoroughly modern in outlook it slightly ageing of limb. They were a delight at Wembley last May before McAteer got Bolton going, and on Saturday, guided by their 36-year-old player-manager Jimmy Quinn and Mick Gooding, they worried United in their invincible, imaginative football until Giggs scored. If the Football Association feels inclined to rap Reading over the knuckles for the coin-throwing incident it should also commend the Elm Park ground-staff's efforts in getting the tie played at all. A mixture of sand and plastic sheeting had defeated the frost, and the only problem for the players was an uneven surface. Ferguson told United to "be sensible, keep it simple and keep the ball ahead of you". He might have added, "If in doubt, watch what the opposition are doing", since common sense and simplicity were fundamental to Reading's early optimism, when a lucky rebound here and better contact there might at least have made the game more of a contest. In the end the principal difference between the teams lay not so much in technique as in pace. "United have got so many good athletes," said Quinn afterwards. "The most dangerous moments for us came when our movements broke down in their box. Keane, Butt, Sharpe and Giggs could get the ball up the other end in a matter of seconds. And that French fellow wasn't bad either."

Though Reading reproduced the angles of pass and runs into space that had twice brought Sunderland within sight of a famous Cup victory, they did not have the change of gear which would have caused Bruce more problems. The Manchester United captain was solidly personified at Elm Park, but he was rarely tested for speed. "I said before the game that Reading would win," Yuri Geller, Elm Park's resident celebrity, told Ryan Giggs, "but your talent overpowered my mind." Giggs looked blank and beat a hasty retreat before Geller could get on to the subject of bending free-kicks. The Manchester United captain was solidly personified at Elm Park, but he was rarely tested for speed. "I said before the game that Reading would win," Yuri Geller, Elm Park's resident celebrity, told Ryan Giggs, "but your talent overpowered my mind." Giggs looked blank and beat a hasty retreat before Geller could get on to the subject of bending free-kicks. The Manchester United captain was solidly personified at Elm Park, but he was rarely tested for speed. "I said before the game that Reading would win," Yuri Geller, Elm Park's resident celebrity, told Ryan Giggs, "but your talent overpowered my mind." Giggs looked blank and beat a hasty retreat before Geller could get on to the subject of bending free-kicks.



Quinn... imaginative

First Division: Millwall 1, Portsmouth 1

**Eastern gifts little consolation for homesick Millwall**

Russell Thomas

IT WOULD be tempting to say that south-east London cold-shouldered the second phase of Millwall's Russian revolution. Even allowing for numbing temperatures and travelling difficulties, the turn-out — roughly half the number who greeted Yuran and Kulikov's arrival a fortnight earlier — compounded disappointment at the New Den on a day when Millwall's home malaise deepened. The inescapable conclusion on Saturday was that lack of confidence as much as the cold gnawed at Millwall's bones. Mick McCarthy, with typical bluntness, summarised the failure to exploit a goal advantage over Portsmouth and numerical superiority for just over an hour. "Anxiety got the better of

them," said Millwall's manager. "There's no remedy except to win." No one can be sure where Millwall's season is heading, not least it seems McCarthy himself. He would not comment on his discussions last Wednesday with Republic of Ireland officials about the national manager's job. But McCarthy clearly remains a front runner, and a second interview is expected this week. The Irish headhunters will have to overlook Millwall's failure to win in eight home games but can note one lapse into Charlton-like habits on Saturday. Asked directly about Kulikov's tentative contribution in midfield, McCarthy instead spoke about Yuran. "He needs a goal," said McCarthy of the striker. "He's played all over the world, but not in the English First Division. And it's hectic." McCarthy's next observa-

tion could be applied to both the men on loan from Spartak Moscow. "He sees passes where the players should be — and they are not there." The missing links will not be found quickly, Yuran and Kulikov — and by inference their new team-mates — "will take time to adjust." There was one memorable connection — between the Russians — when Kulikov's superb pass into the area found Yuran racing clear only for a hair's breadth offside decision to deny the striker. Yuran's protracted protest needed no interpretation. Portsmouth, by contrast, prospered in adversity, thriving on Terry Fenwick's clever personnel and positional changes. The loss of his centre-back Perrett, sent off for a two-footed lunge at Connor, and then Walsh with knee trouble was more than offset.

**Fifth-round draw**

**Manchester's derby chance**

David Lacey

MANCHESTER United, one of only two teams definitely through to the fifth round, face the prospect of a rare FA Cup encounter at home at Manchester City or, failing that, a reunion with their former manager Ron Atkinson, now in charge at Coventry. The chances of Aston Villa, the other team already through, reaching Wembley have been improved by a fifth-round tie at neighbouring Walsall, who lie half-way in the Second Division, or Ipswich of the First Division. These were the sole ties of relative clarity to come out of yesterday's draw, in which 28 teams were still seeking 14 places. The rest was a confusion of alternatives. Manchester United and City have so far met four times in the Cup, United winning the last encounter 1-0 at Old Trafford in a third-round tie in 1987. Oddly enough, they went out at home to Coventry in the next round. United won a fourth-round all-Manchester tie 3-0 in 1970 and before that lost 2-0 to City

at a similar stage in 1955. City won 3-0 in the 1928 semi-final. Even if City win their postponed tie at Highfield Road, their hopes of making the quarter-finals this time will not be good. City have not won at Old Trafford since the last day of the 1973-74 season, when Denis Law's famous backheel sent United down. Among a myriad of other possibilities are all-Premier ship fifth-round encounters between Nottingham Forest and Tottenham, and Leeds United and Everton. Despite Saturday's snow the Cup is unlikely to meet its fate of 1983, when the third round was not done until March 11. The FA is relying on both a break in the weather and police goodwill to see that the fifth round goes ahead in three weeks. The FA wants any ties drawn next week to be replayed a week later, even though the police normally require 10 clear days between the games. If the police object to this, any outstanding fourth-round ties will be put back to Saturday February 17, date of the fifth round.

**LEAGUE FA Cup odds (Fifth Round):** 1-1 Liverpool: 2-2 Manchester United: 3-1 Aston Villa: 3-1 Tottenham: 12-1 Chelsea, M'Gee, M'Gee.

**THE DRAW**  
 Shrewsbury or Liverpool v Charlton or Brentford  
 North Forest or Oxford v Tottenham or West Ham  
 Bolton or Leeds v Everton or Port Vale  
 Ipswich or Hereford v Aston Villa  
 Swindon or Oldham v Southampton or Crewe  
 Manchester United v Coventry or Manchester City  
 Huddersfield or Peterboro v Middlesbrough or Wimbledon  
 West Ham or Grimsby v QPR or Chelsea  
 (to be played February 17, 18 and 19)

**Keegan puts Batty first**

Ian Ross

NEWCASTLE UNITED will spend the next few days concentrating on securing David Batty from Blackburn after putting the proposed \$3.7 million deal for Faustino Asprilla on the back-burner. Batty would almost certainly be a Newcastle player already had Blackburn's benefactor Jack Walker not intervened late last week to veto a \$3.6 million transfer to the North-east. Walker sensed that Kevin Keegan's need for the former Reading midfielder was significantly greater than Blackburn's need for hard cash, and he insisted that any offer to buy \$4 million before negotiations began. With Batty resigned to leaving Blackburn, a deal may be con-

cluded before Newcastle entertain Sheffield Wednesday on Saturday. Asprilla will definitely not be in attendance at the weekend, as clouds of uncertainty continue to shroud his proposed move from Italy. Although he underwent a medical during his brief visit to Tyndale last week, the results have yet to be revealed. There are fears that the Colombian striker is troubled by a long-standing knee injury. If that hurdle is cleared, Newcastle still face the problem of securing a work permit for a man who has a criminal record. He is serving a suspended prison sentence for illegal possession of firearms. Asprilla himself is committed to the transfer. "There is no way I can go back to play for Parma after what has happened," he said yesterday. "It's good for me to move now."

**Yeboah puts Ghana in semis**

TONY YEBOAH scored the goal that put Ghana through to the African Nations' Cup semi-finals yesterday. The Leeds striker turned in an Abedi Pele cross in the 23rd minute of the game in Port Elizabeth when he sent his team on the way to a 1-0 win over Zaire. Zaire paid for their uncom-

promising approach when they had Nzeke Lembi sent off in the 20th minute for aiming a high kick at Pele. Yeboah escaped punishment when he appeared to elbow Ntumba Danga in the face. Pele suffered most. He sprained an ankle and will miss the semi-final against South Africa.

**Scottish Cup third round**

Whitehill Welfare 0, Celtic 3

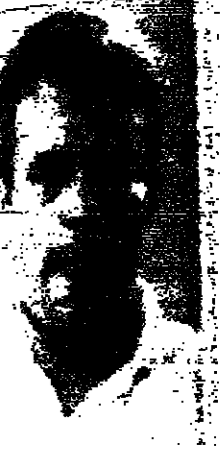
**Postman delivers but Celtic prevail**

Patrick Glenn

IN THE matter of sprats being swallowed by whales, Whitehill Welfare went down much less smoothly than Keith. The Highlanders' 10-1 humiliation by Rangers at Pittodrie 24 hours earlier seemed to have firmed up the resolve of the central lowlanders from the East of Scotland League. The village team from Rosewell on Edinburgh's southern outskirts were never likely to be similarly embarrassed at Easter Road on a day when their defending was heroic, most notably from the goalkeeping postman Scott Cantley, who can surely have been worked harder only by the Christmas rush. Cantley, the Man of the Match, was well served by team-mates such as Steel, Brown, Gowrie, Purves and Bennett, but it was his series of five outstanding saves which denied Celtic a landslide victory. Even a few seconds from the end he topped everything by throwing himself to his left to push away a fierce 20-yard free-kick from Van Hoojdonk. Until Donnelly replaced Walker and brought more

poise to the attack, Van Hoojdonk's right-foot flick at the end of a neat move involving Collins and Walker in the 39th minute was all the holders had to show for their domination. Donnelly scored the second in the 75th minute with an easy header after Wieghorst had nodded Collins's centre from the left back across the six-yard box. Van Hoojdonk had a similar task for the third goal, and his 19th of the season, five minutes later headed Collins's corner kick from the right. Celtic will now be at home to Raith Rovers in the fourth round, while Rangers, for whom Ciesand and Ferguson each scored hat-tricks, visit the winners of the postponed Clyde v Dundee tie. Kilmarnock, who beat Hibernian 2-0 at Easter Road Saturday, will be involved in the only other all-Premier Division tie against the winners of the game between Hearts and Partick Thistle. Whitehill Welfare: Cantley, Purves, Gowrie, Bennett, Steel, Milner, Middlemist (Smith, 62min), Birt (Chimerson, 80), Steele, Brown, Titch (Pratt, 55). Goals: Marshall, McMurray, McClelland, Boyd (O'Neil, 83), Hughes, Grant, Wieghorst (64), Walker (McLaughlin, 87). Referee: I. Thow (Prestwick).

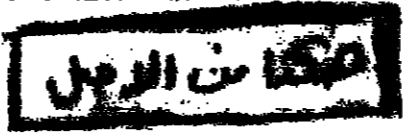
well's fat Rod



Lara Lea

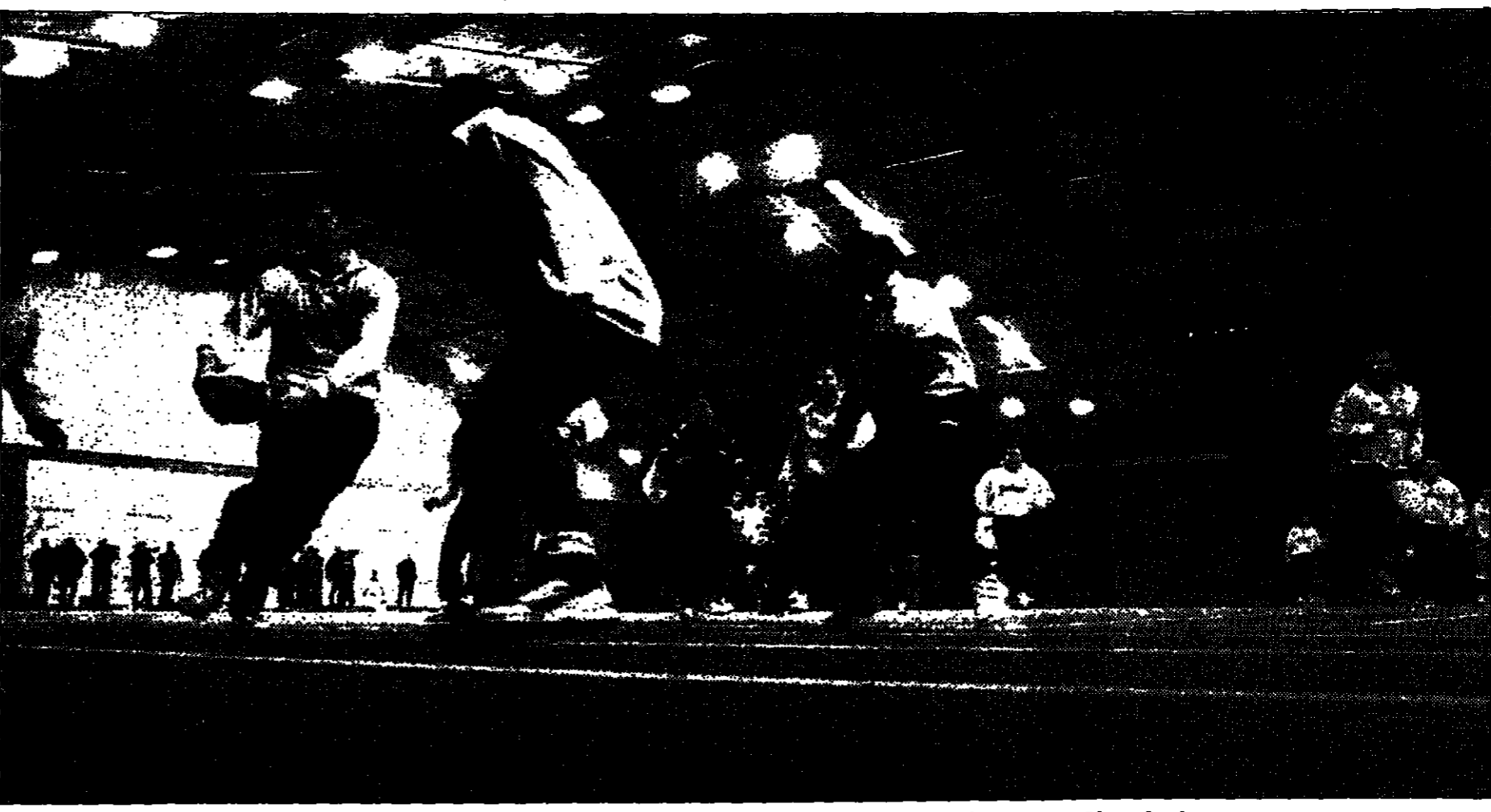
Weekend results

Whitehill Welfare 0, Celtic 3  
 Tottenham Hotspur 1, Wolves 1  
 Everton 2, Port Vale 2  
 Reading 0, Manchester United 3  
 First Division: Millwall 1, Portsmouth 1



Rugby Union Rowell puts his faith in Rodber

Robert Armstrong TIM RODBER returns to the England back row for Saturday's Five Nations Championship match against Wales at Twickenham...



Dry run... England train indoors at St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill yesterday to protect themselves and the Twickenham turf from the elements

Jack Rowell, the England manager, said the form of several players had come under close scrutiny by the selectors after the defeat in Paris. "Ben Clarke continues as pack leader, Tim has a cool head, and Jason Leonard needs to pop in a word when it comes to calling the shots..."

Cricket Lara leads the chase

Paul Weaver in Pointe-a-Pierre BRIAN LARA, with an innings of casual authority, led from the front as Trinidad chased a total of 301 to win their opening Red Stripe Cup match against Barbados at Guayana Park yesterday.

Davies needs a knee operation

JONATHAN DAVIES'S slender hopes of returning to the Five Nations Championship were dealt a major blow yesterday when the Cardiff fly-half entered hospital for a knee operation that threatens to rule him out of any part of the competition this season.

Pilkington Cup, fifth round: Winnington Park 0, Wasps 57

Chris Hewett A MINOR miracle occurred in the heart of the Midlands when the mighty Wasps came swaggering up from London, but it was not the one fervently prayed for by Winnington Park's cheerful collection of estate agents, dairy workers and meat inspectors...

Park brought back to earth with a bump

from the pitch, the farmers who donated bales of straw by the cartload, the local firms who coughed up all manner of sheeting and tarpauling — can congratulate themselves on getting the show on the road when everyone else was frozen into submission. "Fair play to them, they did a brilliant job," said Lawrence Dallaglio...

Weekend results

Table of weekend sports results including Soccer, Rugby Union, and other leagues. Columns include league names and match outcomes.

Basketball Tigers taken by the tail

Robert Pryce THE Thames Valley Tigers, perennial candidates for the Basketball League title, may find themselves contending with relegation this season. After seven fat years, fame has come to Bracknell.

Rugby Union

PILKINGTON CUP, fifth round: Winnington Park 0, Wasps 57. RUGBY LEAGUE: SILEX CUP CHALLENGE CUP Fourth round: Huddersfield (10) 14, Sheffield (10) 24...

Tennis

AUSTRALIAN OPEN (Melbourne): Pete Sampras (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2, defeated Andre Agassi (USA) 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

Ice Hockey

OLYMPIC MEN'S QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT (Barcelona): Britain 3, Malaysia 2, Britain 5, Belgium 2, Netherlands 2, Spain 1, India 4, Belgium 2, Spain 3, Canada 7, Canada 7, Belarus 1, India 0, Malaysia 0.

Sailing

BRITAIN'S sailors were mostly frustrated on the final day of the Olympic Classes Regatta here. The Star class sailors, for whom this is a selection trial for the British Olympic team, did not move above Thames Valley in the race.

Cricket

TEST MATCHES (Auckland): Australia 102, New Zealand 57. (Wellington): New Zealand 102, Australia 57. (Christchurch): New Zealand 102, Australia 57.

Soccer

Table of soccer results including FA Cup, League, and other competitions. Lists teams and scores.

Scottish Cup

Table of Scottish Cup results showing matches between various Scottish clubs.

Rugby League

Table of Rugby League results including Super League and other leagues.

Handball

Table of Handball results from various international competitions.

Table Tennis

Table of Table Tennis results from various international events.

Table Tennis

Table of Table Tennis results from various international events.

Table Tennis

Table of Table Tennis results from various international events.

Becker ends his grand slam drought, page 12

Manchester's tantalising cup draw, page 14

Woosnam confounds the sceptics, page 12

Rodber recalled to England's pack, page 15

# SportsGuardian

## MILOSEVIC TUMBLE WINS PENALTY AND TERRACE BOMBARDMENT

FA Cup, fourth round: Sheffield United 0, Aston Villa 1

# Villa shrug off the snowballs

David Hopps

**F**EW of the Premiership's imports have been less appreciated this season than Aston Villa's Serbian striker Savo Milosevic, so it was apt that one of his most influential moments of the season yesterday should be met by a hail of snowballs.

Several inches of snow were cleared off the Bramall Lane surface to enable this tie to go ahead, and some of it was returned with disgust as the Kop protested over a penalty, won by Milosevic, which carried Aston Villa into the fifth round.

Villa's superiority deserved their 61st-minute goal, as did the quality of the move as Wright's excellent ball from defence was followed by Johnson's exact through-pass. What was less certain was the offence of the challenges on Milosevic, a half-push by Short followed by the slightest contact by the diving Kelly as the stumbling striker leapt over him; he was going nowhere.

Kelly was booked for his protests and Milosevic (accused of diving when, in truth, he was overbalancing) was booked for the rest of the match, which at least stopped the crowd jeering the inaccuracy of his shooting. Memories of United's refused claims for a penalty, when Charles seemed to handle Nielsen's left-wing cross, did not improve their mood.

Yorke's penalty was a moment of brazen confidence, the gentlest of chips which had still not crossed the line by the time Kelly, diving to his right, had hit the ground. Villa have not reached an FA Cup semi-final since 1967 — so long ago that even Paul McGrath had not been born — but their methodical display suggested they can survive most things that might come their way.



Fall before the storm... Milosevic, already stumbling from Short's challenge, completes his dive beyond Kelly to gain the decisive penalty MICHAEL STEELE

Ward and Veart both might have summoned up an injury-time equaliser in a frenzied finish but Villa survived, leaving Howard Kendall to suffer his first defeat in eight matches as United's manager. United's defeat of Arsenal in a third-round replay on the

same ground 11 days earlier had been inspired by the sparky right-side combination of Short and Ward. But Kendall, wary of Johnson's floating role behind Villa's front two, had elected to deploy Ward in a man-marking role and the full-back Short,

more advanced than usual, struggled to come to terms with the role. Johnson, intelligently, wasted no time in drawing Ward as far away from the right flank as possible. The result was that United's attacking threat was negligible

for half an hour, leaving Villa to lay siege to their goal. Johnson twice escaped Ward's attentions with far-post headers, and when Ward did dare to leave him unattended in the anxiety to kick-start United into life, Johnson immediately found space in front of United's central defenders and drove in a low shot which Kelly pushed around his left-hand post.

Villa's most unpredictable moments rested with Milosevic, whose excitable long-range shooting was so persistently astray that his sights must have been set by a fair-ground con-man. He would not win a teddy bear if he tried until Christmas.

With United making so little headway, Ward's marking role was all but abandoned after half an hour. It had an enlivening effect at both ends. Ward's first link with Short provided an opportunity for Patterson, which was saved by Bosnich, who also had to stretch to keep out Hutchin-

son's header after Tuttle had flicked on Nielsen's free-kick. Veart, the Australian striker who had scored the winner against Arsenal, replaced Hutchinson at half-time, and United were forced to make further adjustments three minutes after the interval when Cowans, playing against the club for whom he made nearly 450 league appearances, was carried off with a gashed shin.

With any degree of composure from Milosevic, Villa's margin of victory would have been far greater. Even his part in the penalty failed to inspire him. Johnson's precise pass set up an inviting opportunity 13 minutes from time, but by the time his reckless shot fell to earth it could have had snow on it — retaliation for all those snowballs.



Cocaine allegations... Wilander, left, and Novacek

John Duncan and David Irvine

**M**ATS WILANDER and Karel Novacek will take the International Tennis Federation to court in London this week seeking the right to defend themselves from allegations that they failed drug tests for cocaine at last year's French Open.

Yesterday's News of the World claimed the players had had high-level meetings with tennis officials over alleged failures. In response the ITF president Brian Tobin said in Melbourne: "I can't confirm that there have been any positive tests. The ITF won't be making any comment on this story."

American lawyers, acting for the players, said: "On behalf of our clients we categorically deny the allegation. We have lie-detector evidence proving our clients are telling the truth in denying the allegation."

Tobin insisted: "We won't comment on any individual tests or results that take place throughout the year. Should any particular athlete be found in violation of the rules after full and due process, then of course he or she will be subject to the penalties prescribed."

unbelievable story," Novacek said. Cocaine is a prohibited substance on the tennis tour and a positive test attracts a three-month suspension on the first offence, a one-year suspension for a second failure and permanent suspension for a third. Despite its better-known use as a social drug, cocaine is unquestionably performance-enhancing, according to top drug-testing sources.

"There is no question that cocaine improves alertness," said Dr David Cowan, director of Britain's leading drug-testing centre at King's College, London. "It might also help a player through the pain barrier."

Recent high-profile cases suggest its use may be increasing among sportsmen. The Arsenal footballer Paul Merson admitted taking cocaine and the Leyton Orient defender Roger Stanislaus also failed a post-match test recently. His FA hearing is on Thursday.

The ITF conducts about 1,000 tests a year and has never had a failure. However, several top players have admitted taking cocaine — among them Bjorn Borg, Vitas Gerulaitis and Jennifer Capriati.

Boris Becker was fined by the ATP Tour two years ago for claiming that drug abuse was rampant in men's tennis. And the former British Davis Cup player David Lloyd said in the News of the World: "It's not unknown for players to sprinkle cocaine on their wrists and sniff it during a match."

Australian finale, page 12

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**Keitel's capacity for distilling moral and emotional crisis is central to his screen presence — his troubled countenance also makes him an attractive proposition as a director's alter-ego.**

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**Guardian Crossword No 20,561**  
Set by Crispa

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32

**Across**

- New rope — it's so easy to put away (7)
- Imagines a fool will accept all directions (7)
- Ground for surrounding the monarch with attendants (7)
- About time too, apparently! (7)
- Meant perhaps to retain some rooms (8)
- Chatter cut short by a minister (5)
- Superior port (5)
- A tool held by simple men the wrong way round (8)
- He's set right about gear with little hesitation (8)
- A store of Continental cannabis (5)
- Carol is about fifty and so shy (5)
- Management slip-up (9)
- File around an article with maximum flexibility (7)

**Down**

- Getting a non-drinker into the bar is the little beast's end (3-4)
- Crack up appropriate share (7)
- Well turned out — and suffer for it (5)
- Letters are sent in indicating where skin's to be treated (9)
- A period of illness is concerning (5)
- Front men making a charge (9)
- Fiddle male? But that's appalling! (7)
- Pen tip used by a certain kind of writer (7)
- Say Rosemary appears perpetually naive (9)

**WINNERS OF PRIZE PUZZLE 20,564**

This week's winners of a Collins English Dictionary are Sheila Laves of Darlington, Co. Durham, Dr. A. Doughty of Shrewsbury, Shropshire, John May of Salisbury, Wiltshire, Graham Cordery of Sheffield, Essex, and Michael Cox of Biggleswade, Bedfordshire.

- Stick with bluish grey coating always (9)
- Took stock in sound fashion (7)
- Turning colour about rent required, he'll move to no purpose (7)
- Representation should be made by attendant social worker (7)
- The big fellow backing pre-eminence queen (7)
- Odd route to take — most odd! (5)
- The musician wanted a meal right away (5)

**Solution tomorrow**

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